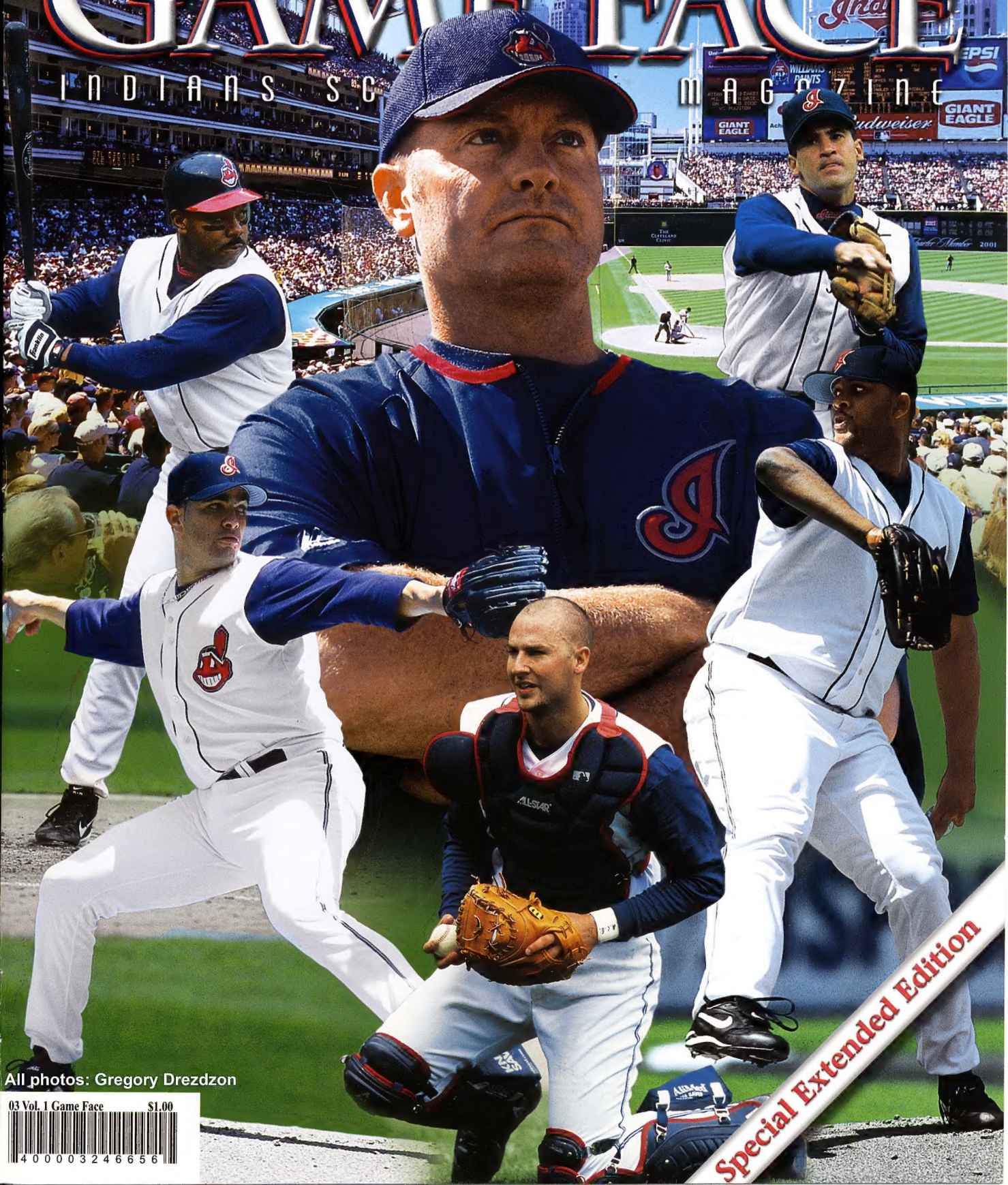


# GAME FACE

INDIANS SC

MAGAZINE



All photos: Gregory Drezdson

03 Vol. 1 Game Face \$1.00



Special Extended Edition



# WELCOME to Jacobs Field!

## Dear Indians Fans:

*The 2003 Major League Baseball season will be the 10th at Jacobs Field. Many memorable moments have been created in that short period of time — two World Series, an All-Star Game, 29 post-season games. Last at-bat heroics . . . too many to count!*

*It all started with a group of talented young players who, when given the opportunity to establish themselves at the Major League level, developed into a series of teams that put Cleveland back on the baseball map. Record-setting performances on the field and in the seats followed, thanks to the passion of Tribe fans.*

*We are poised to repeat that same success story. In a short period of time, General Manager Mark Shapiro and his staff have fortified the foundation of the team — our player development system — which is ranked at the top among all 30 MLB teams according to a number of national baseball publications. We have taken a large step in the process of identifying the players who will become the building blocks of our future success.*

*The job is not done, however, as manager Eric Wedge often states. The next step is developing the young players and providing the opportunity to perform at the Major League level. Together we look forward to the 2003 season with excitement as we begin to build and sustain a championship team in an environment of superior sports entertainment at Jacobs Field.*

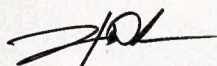
*Your enjoyment of Indians Baseball is our main priority — whether you choose to enjoy listening on the Indians Radio Network with flagship station WTAM, watching on FOX Sports Net, accessing via our website at [indians.com](http://indians.com), reading the newspaper, or visiting Jacobs Field.*

*While 2003 is the 10th season at Jacobs Field, it is also the 103rd season as a Charter Member of the American League. Professional baseball in Cleveland is one of the city's oldest traditions. With that rich heritage comes a civic trust.*

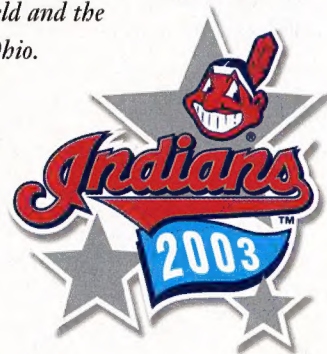
*We pledge our commitment to a supportive community that understands the important connection between Indians Baseball at Jacobs Field and the significant economic impact this link creates for Northeast Ohio.*

*Here's hoping we see you often at Jacobs Field.*

*Sincerely,*



Larry Dolan  
President and Chief Executive Officer







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*We hope you enjoy this extended issue of GAME FACE which includes profiles of more than 25 Indians players.*

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by Steve Herrick

Indians General Manager Mark Shapiro says new Tribe skipper Eric Wedge is a "difference-maker" – someone who can positively impact the outcome of each and every game.

### 14 PLAYER PROFILES

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### 48 HALL-OF-FAME BOUND

by Chuck Murr

This past January, Indians Hitting Coach Eddie Murray was voted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame in his first year of eligibility. Murray, who spent most of his career in Baltimore and is best known for his hitting prowess, joined the 3,000 Hit Club as a Cleveland Indian in 1995.

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# Making an Impact

by Steve Herrick

Indians general manager Mark Shapiro says he could go on all day about Eric Wedge. It's easy to see why Shapiro thinks Wedge, the youngest manager in the Major Leagues at 35 years old, is the perfect fit for the Indians, who will be one of the youngest teams in baseball this season.

"The reason why we felt Eric was the right choice was I feel confident he is a difference-maker," Shapiro said. "There are a few managers on that board that when they get in that dugout and on that field, they can make a difference. They give their teams an edge. They give their teams an advantage. You know they're going to have a chance to impact a game and a season. I'm confident that Eric will be a difference-maker for us in our transition and beyond."

One doesn't have to spend much time with Wedge, who has managed in the Indians farm system the last five years, to see how much he loves the game. He was ready to go on October 29, the day he was hired. To say Wedge is enthusiastic would be understating his zest for baseball.

As he sat in his Jacobs Field office in January, he probably would have organized a game, even though the temperature was in the 20s and snow covered the field, if someone asked him to.

"I'm very passionate about the job," he said. "I'm very passionate about baseball. We will show up and we will find a way to get it done. We'll get out there and get after it, day in and day out."

Wedge, who was a catcher his entire career, thinks the fact he has never forgotten what it's like to be a player, will help him as a manager.

"I'm passionate about my players," he said. "I'll have their back through thick and thin. I promised myself a couple of things when I began managing. I'll never forget what it feels like to be a ballplayer. It's about the players. It's not about me."

Wedge grew up in Fort Wayne, Indiana, and had a stellar college career at Wichita State University. The Shockers made it to the College World Series in his sophomore year and won it in his junior year. Wedge began his professional career in 1989 after being selected in the third round of the Amateur Draft by Boston. He made his Major League debut on October 5, 1991 and singled in his first at-bat against Milwaukee.

"Jack Clark was supposed to hit, but he told the manager to let me get an at-bat," said Wedge. "I remember thinking I wasn't that nervous. I was excited. I had the adrenaline flowing."



Photo: Gregory Drezdson



*Pictured left: the Tribe's new manager, Eric Wedge, in his office at Jacobs Field; right: on the field at Wichita State.*

Wedge hit all five of his Major League homers in 27 games for the Red Sox the following season. He was drafted by the Colorado Rockies in the November, 1992 Expansion Draft in the second round (48th pick overall). Wedge appeared in nine games for the Rockies during their inaugural year, but spent most of the 1993 season on the disabled list with elbow problems. He was released by the Rockies at the end of Spring Training in 1994 and re-signed with the Red Sox on May 2. Wedge appeared in 77 games in Class AAA Pawtucket and his final two games in the big leagues. Wedge spent the next three seasons in the Minors before retiring. A total of eight surgeries (two on each knee and four on his right elbow) cut his career short.

Wedge made the decision to retire midway through the 1997 season when he was playing for Scranton-Wilkes Barre, the Class AAA team of the Philadelphia Phillies.

"I was walking up the steps to the clubhouse after a game one day and it hit me," he said. "I knew what I would have to go through to get ready to play. I called my agent and told him I'd finish off this season and that would be it."

Wedge isn't one to look behind him, so he has nothing but good memories of his playing career.

"It was very frustrating (because of the injuries), but I don't have any regrets," he said. "I felt good about what I was able to do on the field. I felt I made the most out of what I had."

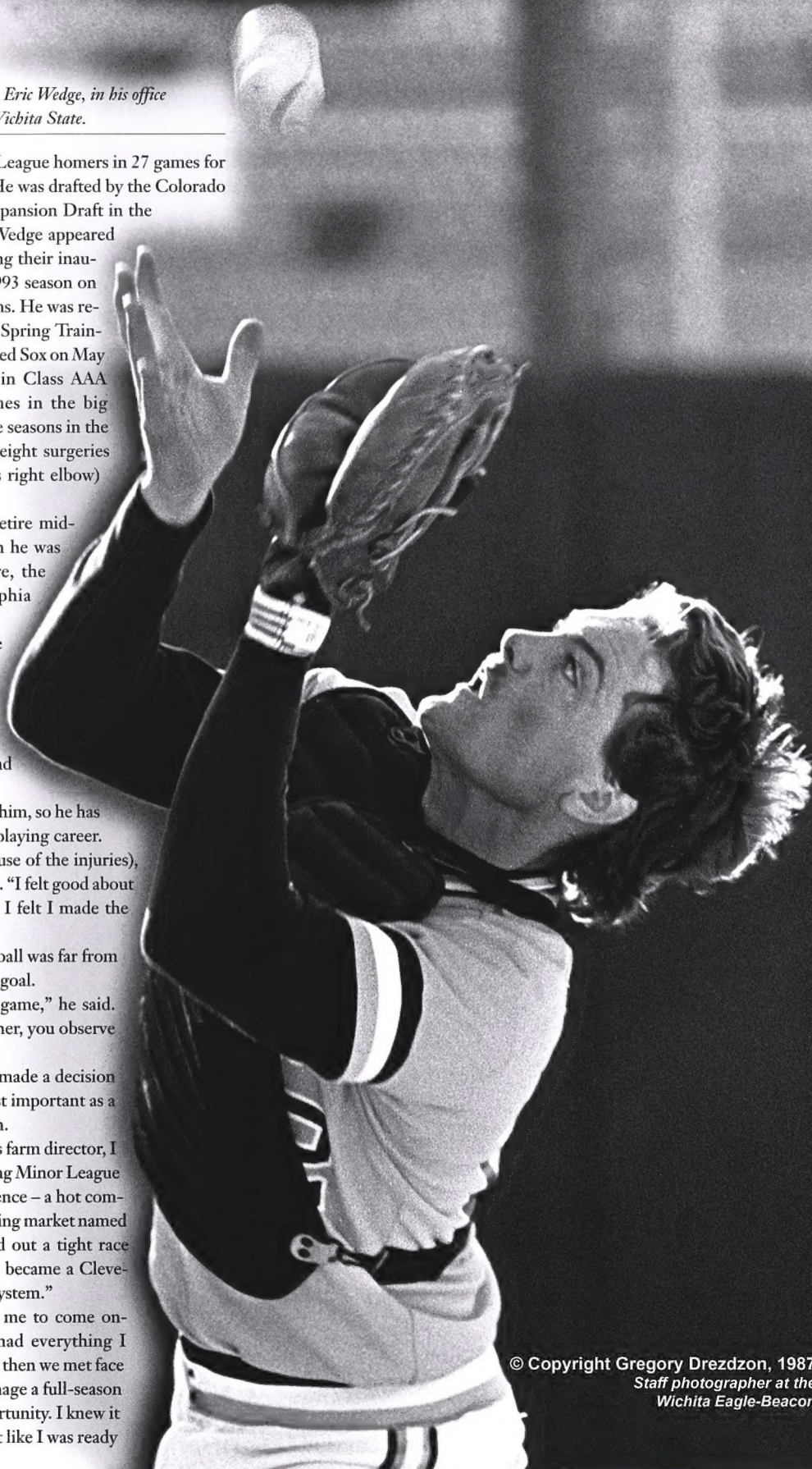
However, Wedge's time in baseball was far from over. Being a manager was his next goal.

"I was always a student of the game," he said. "My position called for it. As a catcher, you observe everything that happens."

After the 1997 season, Shapiro made a decision that turned out to be one of his most important as a member of the Indians organization.

"About six years ago, when I was farm director, I waged a free-agent battle for a retiring Minor League player with some big-league experience – a hot commodity on the Minor League managing market named Eric Wedge," Shapiro said. "I eked out a tight race with the Philadelphia Phillies. Eric became a Cleveland Indians manager in our farm system."

"I talked to Mark. He wanted me to come on-board," said Wedge. "Cleveland had everything I wanted. I knew Mark a little bit, and then we met face to face. He gave me a chance to manage a full-season team right away. It was a great opportunity. I knew it would be a great challenge, but I felt like I was ready for it."



© Copyright Gregory Drezdson, 1987  
Staff photographer at the  
Wichita Eagle-Beacon



With Eric and his younger brother, Ryan, both playing ball, the sport was a way of life around the Wedge house. The brothers and their father played catch so often in the same spot in the front yard that a portion of grass was gone for about three years. The brothers were constantly being driven to and from games, including out-of-state tournaments that made for the family's vacation. Eric played for three teams one summer, which meant a lot of uniform-changing in the car.

Tim Wedge, who is in the trucking business, also was president of the Fort Wayne Little League. Nina is a registered nurse.

"My parents had to go everywhere, but they were into it," said Wedge. "They taught us if you're not going to do something right, don't do it."

Wedge's take-charge attitude started at an early age. Most youngsters want no part of being a catcher, but he jumped at the opportunity.

"Johnny Bench was always my favorite player," said Wedge. "I also liked Thurman Munson and Carlton Fisk. They were all catchers. At my very first practice, they had signups. They asked me if I wanted to catch and I said 'yes' right away. I loved being in the action. That was the biggest attraction. It was different from every other position. Everyone else is looking at you and you're looking at everyone else. Plus, I loved putting all that equipment on."

Wedge enjoyed the responsibility that goes with the position.

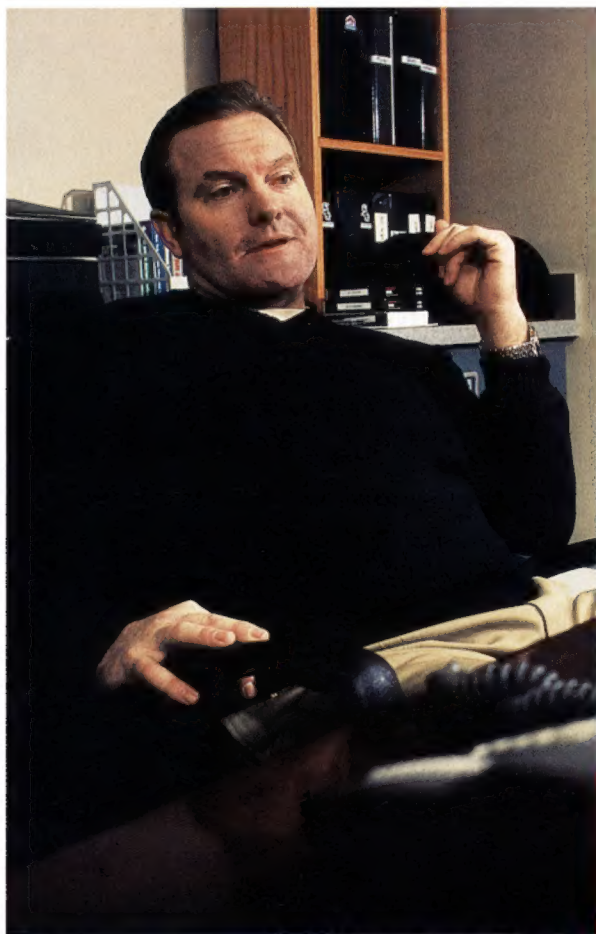


Photo: Gregory Drezdzn

"I wanted that put on me at a young age," he said. "I knew my job was to make that pitcher the best he possibly could be on that day. I think that helped me understand the game."

Wedge takes over a team in which four players – Ellis Burks, Omar Vizquel, Terry Mulholland, and Dave Burba – are older than he is.

"I'm going to rely on their experience," he said. "They've been playing for a lot of years."

Pirates manager Lloyd McClendon, 43, had been the youngest manager in the Majors. Wedge is the second-youngest manager in club history, behind Lou Boudreau, who was 24 when he became the club's player-manager in 1942.

Wedge and his wife, Kate, were married in November. Kate is a native of Buffalo and the two met while he managed there. They will make their year-round home in Westlake.

Wedge is excited about the new era the Indians are embarking upon.

"We're going to have some ups and downs here in the next year or two, but rest assured we're going to move in the right direction," he said. "Whether we win or lose on that particular day, we have to make sure we are moving forward. We need to build a foundation."

Shapiro believes Wedge is the right man to lead the Indians into their new era.

"Eric possesses the qualities and attributes that I think in today's game are essential," said Shapiro. "He's got a work ethic that's tireless and a never-ending pursuit of excellence."

Not to mention a passion for the game that his players and Indians fans are about to get a long look at.

**"Your goal when you're  
a player in the Minors  
is to get to the  
Major Leagues, so it's  
natural that your goal  
would be the same as  
a manager."**

**New Tribe Skipper  
Eric Wedge**

*Wedge (pictured left) earned respect quickly as a Minor League manager. After just his second season, he was named Manager of the Year in the Carolina League (1999) and earned the same honor in the International League two years later.*





Photo: Gregory Drezdson





"I liked going for it more than I thought I would," Murray recalled. "They put up that banner at Jacobs Field, and every time I got a hit, they'd take a number down – and the fans would cheer. You know what made it really special? How the fans wanted me to get the record. I was amazed at how hard they pulled for me. It was really a moving experience each time."

Exactly one year to the day after Cal Ripken, Jr. broke Lou Gehrig's record for consecutive games played, Murray joined Hank Aaron and Willie Mays as the only players with both 3,000 hits and 500 homers in 1996.

On his special night in 1995, Ripken had told the world of Murray's influence: "When I got to the big leagues, there was a man – Eddie Murray – who showed me how to play this game, day in and day out. I thank him for his example and for his friendship. I was lucky to have him as my teammate for the years we were together."

Ripken admits he got much help from Murray, who showed coaching leadership qualities even as a young player. When Ripken

## INDIANS IN THE HALL OF FAME

Player	Position	Years in Cleveland
Cy Young	RHP	1890-98, 1910-11
Napoleon Lajoie	2B	1902-14 (a)
Elmer Flick	OF	1902-10
Addie Joss	RHP	1902-10
Tris Speaker	OF	1916-26 (b)
Stan Coveleski	RHP	1916-24
Joe Sewell	SS	1920-30
Earl Averill	OF	1929-39
Sam Rice	OF	1934
Bob Feller	RHP	1936-56
Lou Boudreau	SS	1938-50 (c)
Bob Lemon	RHP	1946-58
Larry Doby	OF	1947-55, 1958
Al Lopez	C	1947 (d)
Satchel Paige	RHP	1948-49
Early Wynn	RHP	1949-57, 1963
Hal Newhouser	LHP	1954-55
Ralph Kiner	OF	1955
Hoyt Wilhelm	RHP	1957-58
Gaylord Perry	RHP	1972-75
Frank Robinson	OF	1974-76 (e)
Phil Niekro	RHP	1986-87
Steve Carlton	LHP	1987
Dave Winfield	OF	1995
Eddie Murray	1B-DH	1994-96

(a) Managed team, 1905-09

(d) Managed team, 1951-56

(b) Managed team, 1919-26

(e) Managed team, 1975-77

(c) Managed team, 1942-50

Also: Walter Johnson, who managed the team (1933-35), and general managers Billy Evans (1927-35), Bill Veech (1946-49), and Hank Greenberg (1950-58) are in the Hall of Fame.

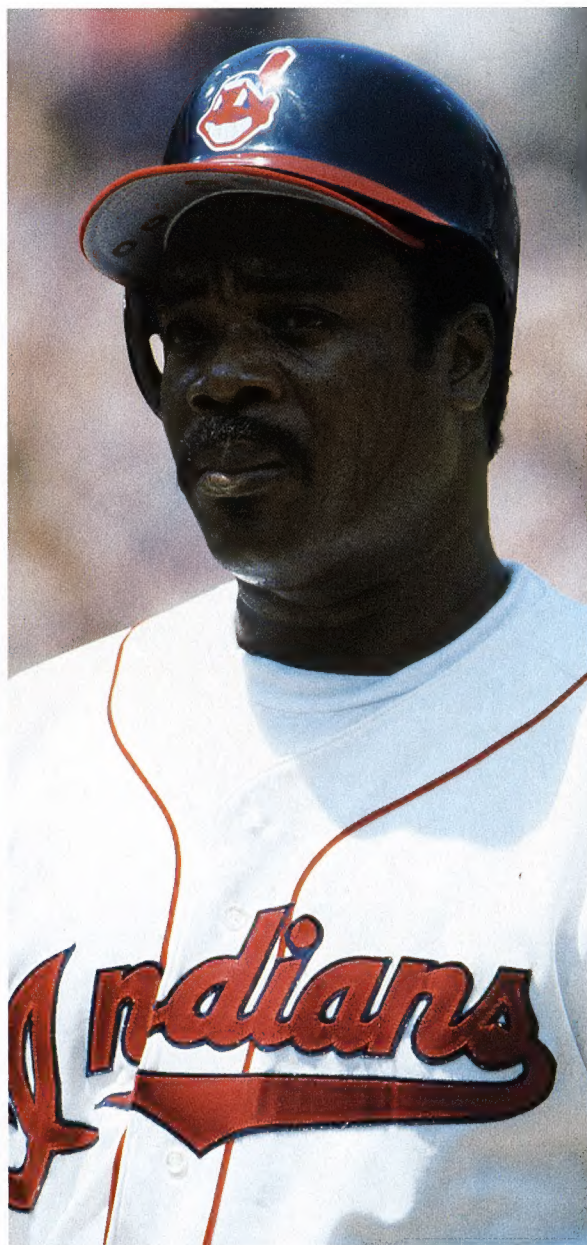


Photo: Gregory Drezdson

was a rookie in 1982, Murray was an established star. Ripken went 3-for-5 on Opening Day, then endured a 4-for-55 slump.

"He stumbled big time," Murray recalled. "I tried to make him understand it was the same game he always played. I told him it was the same game you played at age seven, don't put any unnecessary pressure on yourself."

When Murray made the Hall of Fame, Ripken was elated. "To this day, Eddie has the biggest heart of any of my friends," Ripken told reporters. "He's always been fun to be around. He's got a sense of humor. When I was a young player, he loosened me up and helped me be accepted by the team. And he's the best teammate I ever had [with whom] to go side-by-side into battle."

Murray had the same indomitable desire to play every game, too.



"I signed up to play 162 and that is what I intended to play every year," he said. Murray did that only once, in 1984, but played more than 160 five other times and more than 150 nine other times.

"I remember the first game I didn't play, I was mad at Earl (Weaver, the Orioles Hall of Fame manager)," Murray said of one of only two games he missed as a rookie in 1977. "I was sick, but they gave me something to make me feel better. I started pacing the dugout and Earl finally yelled, 'You're not playing!'"

"I just always felt you should be in there. There's a comfort level for the manager, the teammates. One guy is missing and it might change three or four spots in the lineup."

Indians teammates always considered Murray a special mentor. Kenny Lofton, Manny Ramirez, and even Albert Belle watched, listened, and learned from Murray. Carlos Baerga, who at the time was the Indians clubhouse leader, often said, "Eddie Moo-ree," as the All-Star second baseman called him, was the real general in charge of the awesome 1995 club.

"Working with others comes from a love of the game," Murray said. "When I came up, guys were fans of the game. We studied it from the time we were little kids. A lot of the kids now are not fans. We were fans and students of baseball. I don't think some young players are like that now."

"They are bigger and stronger, but I wonder if they think. This is the ultimate chess game. With every pitch, the situation changes. You have to think ahead, adjust. The best thing to do is try to learn to play before it happens. That simplifies it a lot, but I guess you still have to produce, too."

Teammates have always looked up to Murray, who displays a fun-loving personality in the clubhouse and a stoic, no-nonsense face to the public. Murray has always been wary of the media, though he is seldom rude or mean.

"No thanks, not tonight," is his standard reply to most interview requests.

Only in very rare and special situations will he give the media a glimpse of his fun side. Even when he won Game 3 of the 1995 World Series for the Indians with an RBI single in the 11th inning, Murray remained a sphinx.

As reporters gathered around his locker, Murray brushed his teeth, then put on a pair of sneakers and walked away. "Not tonight," he said.

Years earlier, he had said interviews just were not important to him: "I'm not into publicity. Some need it. Some don't. But if it's playing baseball you're talking about, I don't know how I could have any more fun."

After being voted into the Hall of Fame, Murray didn't waver when asked how he would like the media to describe his career:

"...as somebody who went out to play. Making the Hall of Fame was not why I played the game, but I'm pretty proud of what I've done. I left it all out there."

*Murray's skill at the plate and desire to guide younger players has led to his current career in coaching. Murray traveled from Baltimore to Cleveland in this second career – just as he did as a player.*

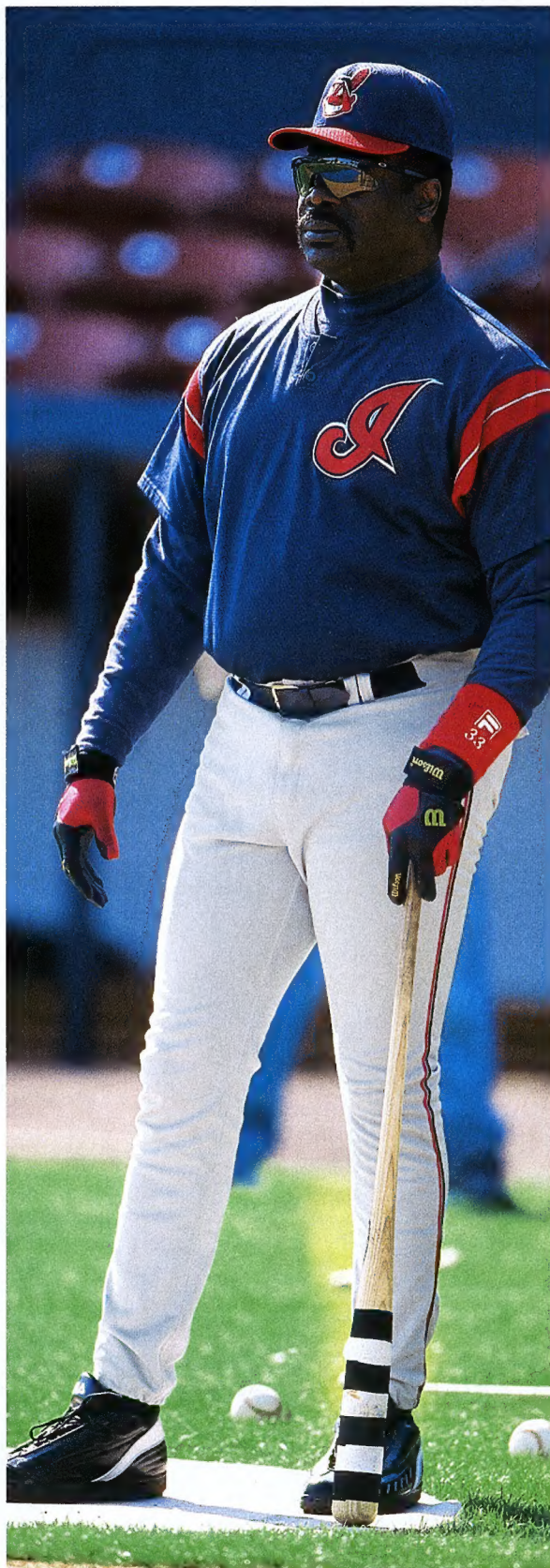


Photo: Gregory Drezdson





# The Cleveland Indians 2003 Community Spirit of Partnership

*The Cleveland Indians are proud to serve the Northeast Ohio community by providing a variety of educational, recreational, and humanitarian programs for Tribe fans of all ages. Programs are designed to improve the quality of life of those less fortunate, to support youth in reaching their full potential, and to foster self-confidence. We embrace the opportunity to be a responsible corporate citizen serving the Greater Cleveland communities.*



## OFF THE FIELD

### Tribe Players Create Ticket Programs To Bring Local Youth To Jacobs Field



Photo: Gregory Drezdzon

### John McDonald's Father's Day Contest

This season, second baseman John McDonald will make Father's Day extra special for fathers everywhere. The program, "Mac & Me" will allow Tribe fans under the age of 18 a chance to enter their name in a raffle and win *A Day at Jacobs Field* with Johnny Mac and his dad!

One hundred names will be randomly drawn to select the winners as special guests of John and his father. Winners will enjoy lunch at Jacobs Field, receive a special *Mac & Me* t-shirt, observe batting practice, and meet John, his dad, and other Tribe players prior to the game.

*Outfielder Matt Lawton (above) and second baseman John McDonald (right) take part in programs that bring area fans to Jacobs Field.*

### Lawton's Little Leaguers

For the second season, outfielder Matt Lawton will once again bring hundreds of local youth to attend a Tribe game this summer. "Lawton's Little Leaguers" is open to local non-profit organizations serving disadvantaged youth in Northeast Ohio. Each "Lawton's Little Leaguers" participant will enjoy a boxed lunch, see batting practice, receive a "Lawton's Little Leaguers" t-shirt, and meet Matt before the game.



Photo: Gregory Drezdzon



# Brian Anderson

# 31

## Contract Status:

Signed through 2003.

## Acquired:

December 23, 2002. Signed by Cleveland to a Major League free agent contract.

## 2002 Season Highlights:

- ◆ Season came to an abrupt halt on September 21 in Colorado when he suffered a season-ending injury to his left foot. The Arizona lefthander was hit by a Ben Petrick line drive in the third inning at Coors Field causing an incomplete fracture of his fifth metatarsal and removed any doubt of him being on Arizona's post-season roster.
- ◆ He opened the year in the starting rotation, working three times and losing once before going to the pen for six consecutive appearances, also losing once in that stretch from April 17 to May 1.
- ◆ Broke into the win column on June 5, tossing an inning of relief at home against Houston and earning a 5-4 victory in the 13-inning affair. He resumed his role as a starter and lost a June 11 interleague decision to the Yankees in the Bronx before his luck began to change for the better. Brian snapped his drought as a starter with a 6-3 victory at home over Baltimore on June 18, his first win in that role since July 22, 2001, a span of 17 consecutive starts.
- ◆ The win over the O's started a stretch in which he was 4-1 in five starts, highlighted by his first three-game winning streak since the 1998 season. The winning streak was followed up with four consecutive no-decisions from July 28 to August 3, the last three of which he left with a lead.
- ◆ Included in that stretch was a terrific performance at home against San Diego on July 28, allowing two runs on five hits in eight-innings while establishing a career-high 11 strikeouts (previous high was eight).

## GO TRIBE!



Photo: Gregory Drezdson





Photo: Gregory Drezdson

# Danys Baez

55

## Contract Status:

Signed through 2003 with a club option for 2004.

## Acquired:

November 6, 1999; signed to a Major League free agent contract by the Cleveland Indians.

## 2002 Season Highlights

- ◆ Was a solid member of the starting rotation before being converted to closer over the last five weeks of the season. Made and won his first career Major League start on April 5 in Detroit against the Tigers, taking a no-hitter into the fifth inning. Held the Tigers to just two hits in 5.1 innings. Won his second start against the Twins on April 10 (longest winning streak of season).
- ◆ Suffered his first loss of the year in his start at Chicago on April 17, working a then season-low 4.0+ innings. He tossed 5.1 scoreless

innings to defeat Mark Buehrle and the White Sox in his fourth start on April 22 at Jacobs Field to improve his record to 3-1. Over his last 23 starts he went 7-9 with a 4.33 ERA and worked at least 5.0 innings in 21 of the 23 outings.

- ◆ Did not post an ERA higher than 4.59 in any of his five months in the starting rotation. Allowed only seven home runs in his last 13 starts (82.0 IP). Worked 5.0 or more innings in 23 of his 26 starts. Struck out a season/career-high eight batters on July 12 versus New York-AL. Worked a career-high 8.0 IP in his start and win on July 23 versus New York-AL and pitched into the ninth inning for the first time. Was 1-0 with a 2.40 ERA in two starts versus New York.
- ◆ He was named the closer on August 27 and made 13 appearances in relief, going 1-1 with a 3.97 ERA and six saves in eight chances. Recorded a career-best 10th win in relief appearance on August 31 versus Boston. Recorded his first career save August 28 versus Detroit.



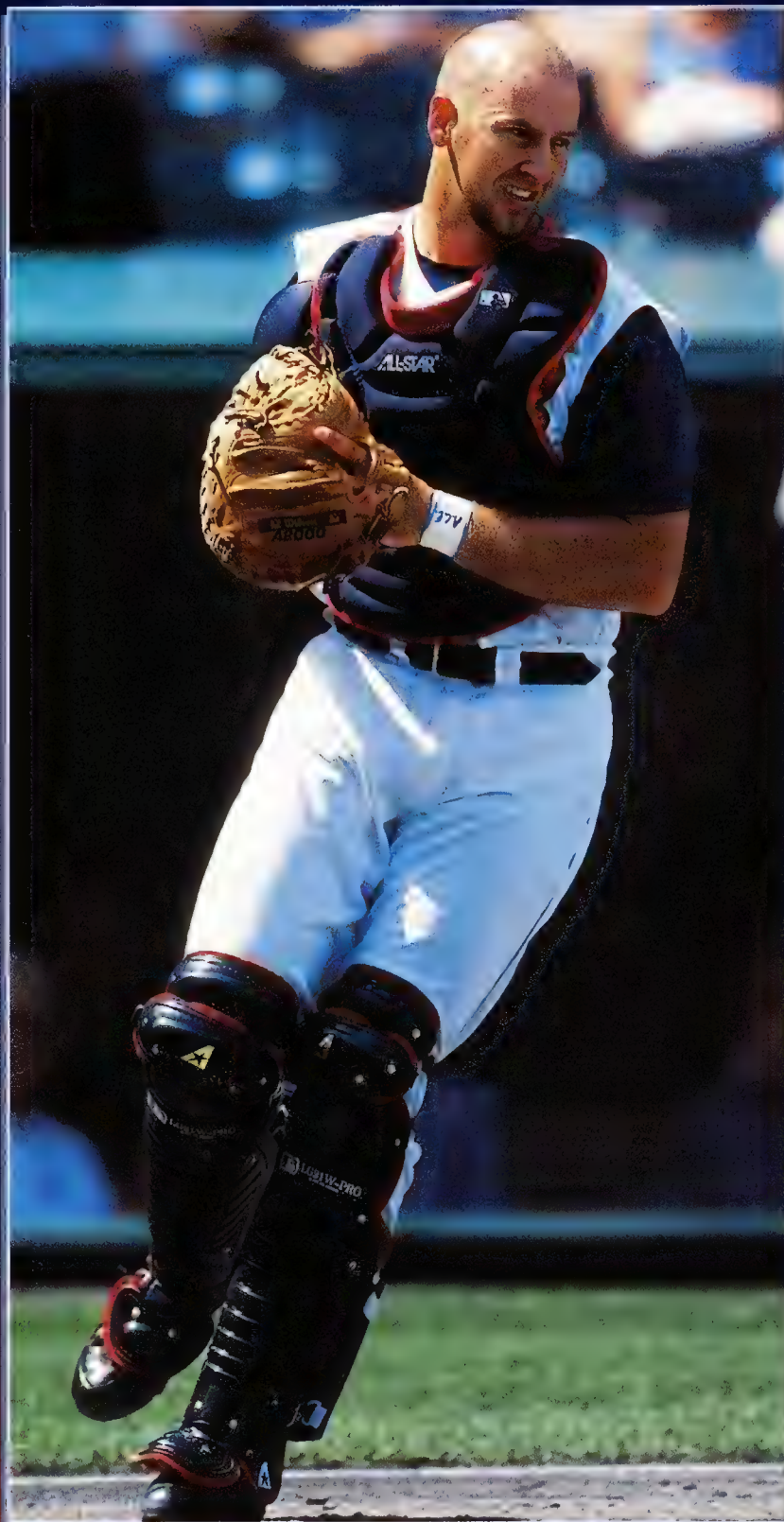


Photo: Gregory Drezdson

## Contract Status:

Signed through 2003.

## Acquired:

June 1, 2001 from the Colorado Rockies along with OF Jody Gerut in exchange for OF Jacob Cruz.

## 2002 Season Highlights

- ◆ Spent most of the season at AAA Buffalo before being promoted to the big leagues for the first time in August after Einar Diaz suffered a season-ending injury.
- ◆ Spent most of the Minor League season at Buffalo, hitting .297 with 26 doubles, six home runs, and 53 RBI in 94 games. Appeared in 93 games at catcher and tossed out 41 of 90 base stealers with the Bisons. Hit in 12 straight games for the Bisons from June 27 to July 17 and hit .380 in July with eight doubles and 11 RBI. Over his last 35 games at Buffalo, he hit .382 – with 14 doubles, one home run, and 21 RBI. The switch-hitting catcher hit .310 off right-handed pitching and .258 with two homers and 11 RBI off lefthanders at AAA. Also hit .361 with runners in scoring position and was five for seven with the bases loaded with a homer and 13 RBI. His 60 assists led all International League catchers.
- ◆ Made his debut August 23 versus Seattle and collected his first Major League hit in the fifth inning off Joel Pineiro. Hit his first homer in the ninth inning off Seattle's James Baldwin to break a 2-2 tie, becoming the first Major Leaguer to hit a "walk-off" home run in his debut since Billy Parker of the Angels on September 9, 1971.

Player profiles continue on page 36.







Photo: Gregory Drezdson

# Jason Bere

46

## Contract Status:

Signed through 2003.

## Acquired:

December 19, 2002. Signed by the Cleveland Indians to a free agent Major League contract.

## 2002 Season Highlights

- ◆ Jason made just one second-half start during a season in which he went 1-10 with a 5.67 ERA in 16 starts. Got off to a promising start, allowing three earned runs in 12.2 innings in his first two outings. Made his first start of the season on Opening Day at Wrigley Field, April 5, versus Pittsburgh and suffered the loss in a 2-1 contest.
- ◆ Picked up his only victory of the season in a 7-3 contest at Pittsburgh on April 12, allowing two runs and three hits in 6.0 innings. Began a stretch in which he was 0-9 over his final 14 starts. Had two solid

chances at stopping the losing skid, working 6.0 shutout innings on May 26 at Houston (left with a 5-0 lead) and on June 18 versus Texas after leaving the game in the eighth inning with a 3-2 lead.

- ◆ On June 26 versus Cincinnati at Wrigley Field, he left the game in the third inning after being struck on the right knee by a line drive off the bat of Sean Casey. Was on the disabled list from June 27 to August 30 with a severe contusion to the side of his right knee — along with a strained right groin. Rejoined the Cubs after a one-start injury rehab assignment at Iowa (AAA).
- ◆ Went back on the disabled list on September 6 after once again straining his right groin and missed the remainder of the season.



# Casey Blake

1



## Contract Status:

Signed through 2003

## Acquired:

December 18, 2002. Signed by Cleveland to a Minor League contract with an invitation to Major League Spring Training.

## 2002 Season Highlights

- ◆ Spent most of the season at AAA Edmonton in the Minnesota organization of the Pacific Coast League. Homered in consecutive games on April 5-6 and July 13-14 and had a two-homer game on April 6 at Tucson and another on April 21 at Colorado Springs. Hit safely in 13 of 14 games, going 22-55 from April 2 to May 4.
- ◆ Was recalled to Minnesota on May 10; hit in three consecutive games. Had a 16-game hit-streak, going 26-62 from July 1-20 and also hit consecutively in the final 16 games of the season, going 25-63, from August 15 to September 2. Had his third two-homer game of the season and season-high seven RBI on July 30 at Tacoma. Led his club in stolen bases (24), was third in hits and walks, and fourth in at-bats and runs.



Photo: Gregory Drezdson





Photo: Gregory Drezdzn

# Milton Bradley 24

## Contract Status:

Signed through 2003.

## Acquired:

July 31, 2001 from the Montreal Expos in exchange for RHP Zach Day.

## 2002 Season Highlights

- ◆ Showed flashes of becoming a quality Major Leaguer in his first full season in the big leagues. Overall he made 86 starts in center field (94G) and reached base safely in 74 of those 86 starts. Raised his average from .233 in the first half to .265 in the second half.
- ◆ Was on the 15-day disabled list twice, the first of which came from May 2 to June 3 after suffering an orbital fracture. Began a six-game rehab on May 28 at AAA Buffalo and was activated off the DL on June 4. Was placed on the 15-day DL on August 14 after undergoing an emergency appendectomy that day in St. Petersburg, FL.
- ◆ Was activated from second stint on August 30. Hit .273 over his last 18 games of the season, but was limited to just one start over the season's last eight games due to a strained left oblique.
- ◆ Hit .273 over the last 45 games of his season (11 2B, 5 HR, 23 RBI, and 27 RS). Stole six bases in nine attempts on the year and was 0 for 1 as a pinch hitter. Hit the first two grand slams of his career – July 7 at Chicago-AL (Ritchie) and July 18 versus Minnesota (J.Rincon). Compiled a fielding percentage of .982 in 94 games in center field. Finished tied for eighth among AL outfielders with his nine assists despite playing only 94 games.
- ◆ Collected career-high five hits on July 21 at Kansas City and equaled career-high with five RBI, totaling an Indians season-high 11 total bases. Best month was July, hitting .292 with eight doubles, four homers, and 20 RBI in 24 games. Did not make an error over his last 27 games in center field.





Photo: Gregory Drezdson

# Ben Broussard

# 28

## Contract Status:

Signed through 2003.

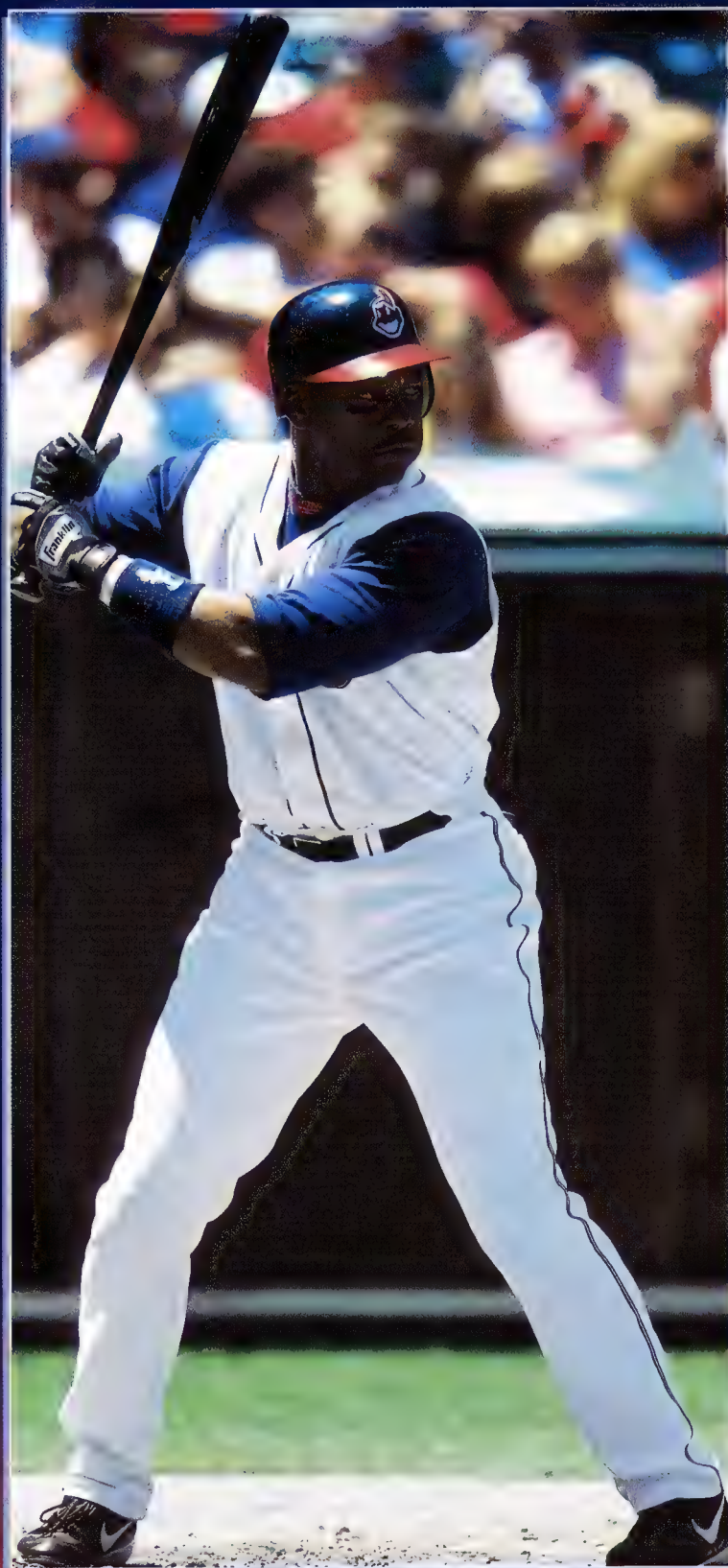
## Acquired:

June 7, 2002 from Cincinnati in exchange for INF/OF Russell Branyan.

## 2002 Season Highlights

- ◆ Began the season at AAA Louisville, hitting .295 in April with four homers and 18 RBI in 24 games. Was named the Cincinnati organization's best hitter for average and sixth-best prospect by *Baseball America*, entering the 2002 season.
- ◆ Hit a pair of homers on May 13 versus Syracuse and homered in four of six games (5 HR) from May 10 to 16. Appeared in 45 games at first base and 10 games at DH for Louisville prior to the trade on June 7. He was assigned to AAA Buffalo and appeared in 14 games before being recalled to Cleveland on June 22.
- ◆ Made his Major League debut that night in a pinch-hitting appearance at Montreal and made his first start in left field on June 23 at Montreal, notching his first hit in the second inning. Hit his first home run on June 26 at Boston off Pedro Martinez (also first career RBI). Collected season/career-high three hits on July 19 at Kansas City. He appeared in 31 games with Cleveland before being optioned back to AAA Buffalo on August 1.
- ◆ Was recalled for the second time after the conclusion of the AAA playoffs and appeared in eight games in September, going five for 18 (.278) with one home run and two RBI.





## Contract Status:

Signed through 2003 with a club option for 2004.

## Acquired:

November 20, 2000. Signed by Cleveland to a free agent Major League contract.

## 2002 Season Highlights

- ◆ Enjoyed a productive campaign during his second season in Cleveland, topping the 30 homer mark for the fourth time in his career and the first since 1999. The two-time All-Star ('90 and '96) finished second on the team in hits (156), runs (92), homers (32) and RBI (91) – the highest RBI total for Ellis in the American League since 1988 (92) with Boston. Was on fire in the second half, hitting .339 with 16 HR and 48 RBI in 62 games. The two-time Silver Slugger Award winner's .339 batting average in the second half was third among all AL hitters behind Bernie Williams (.358) and Manny Ramirez (.354). Ellis' 32 homers set a new club, single-season record for round-trippers by a DH, breaking Andre Thornton's 1982 mark of 31. Named AL's top DH after the season.
- ◆ Hit safely in 21 of last 24 games to raise his average from .280 to .301. Collected a hit in 14 straight games from September 9 to 27. His 32 HR ranked 11th in the AL and his .541 slugging percentage ranked 10th. His .369 average with runners in scoring position was the fifth highest mark among AL hitters.
- ◆ Ellis collected his 2000th career hit on August 14 at Tampa Bay off Paul Wilson (first inning). Reached base safely in 115 of 133 starts via a hit or walk. Hit safely in 99 of 138 games. Enjoyed his 20th career two-homer game on May 30 versus Detroit and his 21st career two-homer game on July 20 at Kansas City. Had a season-high four hits on September 25 at Minnesota.
- ◆ Best month was September, hitting .390 with six doubles, five homers, and 18 RBI in 21 games. His .500 average when swinging at the first pitch was second in the AL.



Photo: Gregory Drezdson



## Contract Status:

Signed through 2003.

## Acquired:

Selected by Cleveland in the 21st round of the 1999 First Year Player Draft.

## 2002 Season Highlights

- ◆ Had a breakout season, beginning the year at A Kinston of the Carolina League before compiling an impressive ERA of 1.84 in three outings with Cleveland to end the season.
- ◆ Tossed a four-hit, complete game, 9.0 inning shutout on June 8 versus Myrtle Beach in his 13th start of the season and never looked back. Over his last five starts at Kinston, he was 2-1 with a 3.15 ERA and was promoted to AA Akron for the second half on July 10.
- ◆ Was promoted to the big leagues on September 9 when his contract was purchased from AA Akron. Made his Major League debut that night in relief of Jaret Wright versus Toronto, yielding a solo HR to Eric Hinske. Made his first Major League start on September 14, versus Minnesota and did not get a decision in the 3-2 Twins win.
- ◆ Picked up his first Major League win on September 20 at Kansas City in a 6-2 Tribe win. Allowed only one run in all three of his Major League outings and just 12 hits in 14.2 IP. Batters were one for 15 off him with runners in scoring position at the big league level and four for 25 with runners on base. Did not allow a run over the first 4.0 innings of either big league start.

## GO TRIBE!

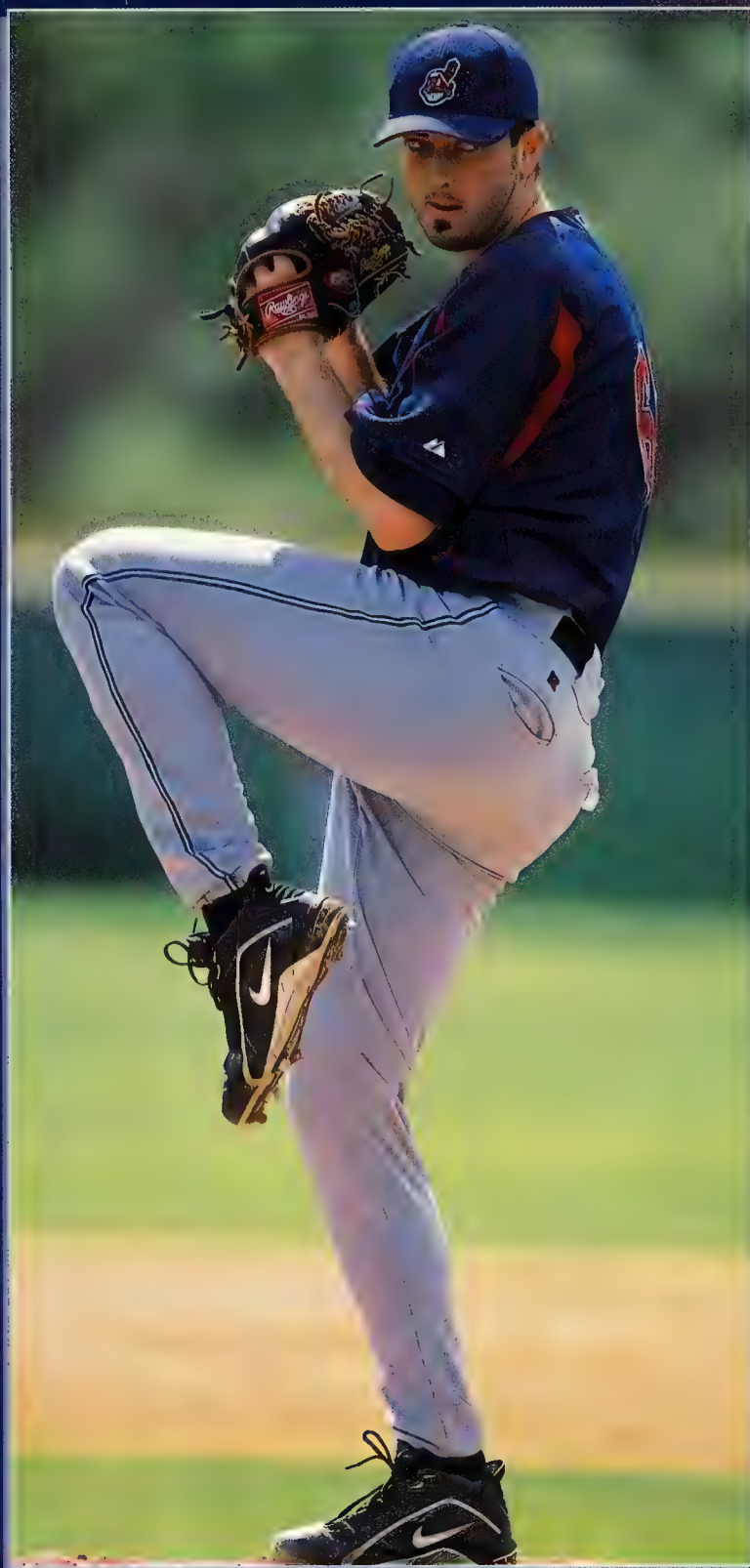


Photo: Gregory Drezdson





Photo: Gregory Drezdson

# Karim Garcia

# 20

## Contract Status:

Signed through 2003.

## Acquired:

July 13, 2002. Signed by Cleveland to a free agent Minor League contract.

## 2002 Season Highlights

- ◆ Began the season at AAA Columbus of the International League.
- ◆ Started the season hot in Columbus, hitting .330 in April with two homers and 13 RBI before hitting .168 in May. Was hitting .322 in 23 June games with six home runs and 19 RBI before being promoted to New York on June 28. Appeared in two games with the Yankees, going 1 for 5 before being designated for assignment on July 3.
- ◆ Signed a Minor League deal with the Indians on July 13 and appeared in 23 games with the Buffalo Bisons, hitting safely in his last 19 straight contests from July 16 to August 4 before being promoted to Cleveland on August 6.
- ◆ Made one start in left field on August 6 and switched positions with Matt Lawton the next day and was the club's regular rightfielder through the remainder of the season, collecting a Major League best 52 RBI in his tenure from August 6 through the end of the season. Collected a career-high six RBI on September 2 at Detroit. Hit two grand slams on August 13 at Tampa Bay and on September 5 at Chicago. Now has three career grand slams. Hit a "walk-off" homer on August 24 versus Seattle, off lefty Doug Creek.



# Jody Gerut

9

## Contract Status:

Signed through 2003.

## Acquired:

June 1, 2001 from the Colorado Rockies along with CA Josh Bard in exchange for OF Jacob Cruz.

## 2002 Season Highlights

- ♦ Had a break-out year between Akron and Buffalo. Hit a combined .298 with 22 2B, 4 3B, 10 HR, 60 RBI, and 20 SB in 120 games between Double A and Triple A. His 75 runs scored between the two stops was the third highest figure among Indians Minor Leaguers in 2002.
- ♦ Began the year at Akron, where he hit two-run homers in the season's first two games versus Erie and drove in 18 runs in 21 April games for the Aeros. Was hitting .317 in 16 June games for Akron before being promoted to AAA Buffalo on June 18. Found his groove right away at Buffalo, hitting in 11 straight games from June 27 to July 13, including a four-for-four game versus Pawtucket on July 5 in which he had two runs scored and two RBI.
- ♦ Combined on the year, he appeared in 82 games in center field, 15 games in right field, and 21 games in left field. He hit .314 off righthanders with eight homers and 49 RBI. He hit .263 off lefties with two homers and 11 RBI. Hit .346 off righthanders at Buffalo. On the year, he hit .336 with runners in scoring position. Contract was purchased from AAA Buffalo on November 20, and he was added to the 40-man roster.



Photo: Gregory Drezdson



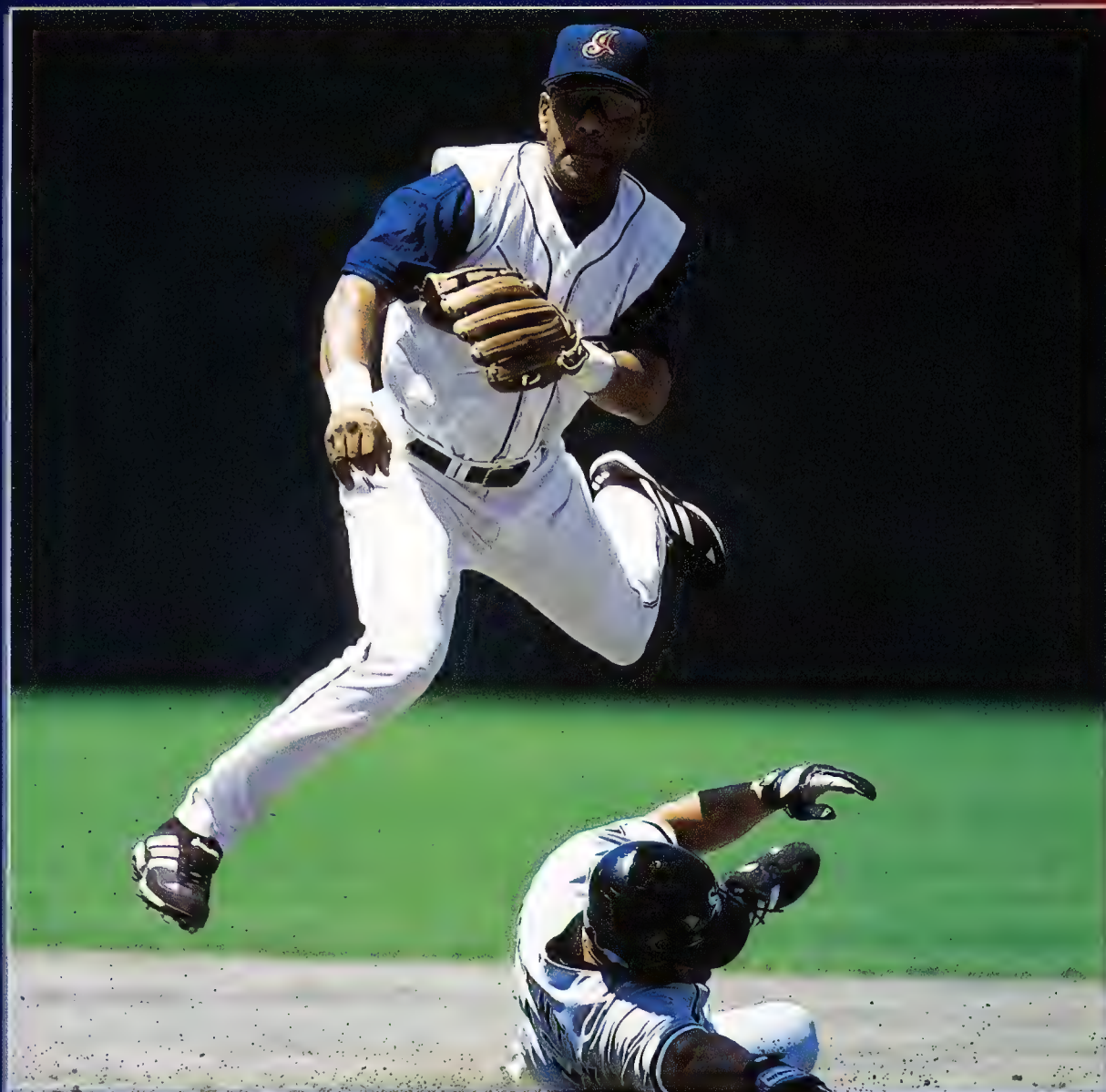


Photo: Gregory Drezdson

# Ricky Gutierrez 12

## Contract Status:

Signed through 2004 with a club option for 2005.

## Acquired:

December 17, 2001. Signed by Cleveland to a free agent Major League contract.

## 2002 Season Highlights

- ◆ First season with Cleveland was cut short due to a neck injury that required season-ending surgery and put in question the start of his 2003 campaign. Was moved to second base during Spring Training after signing a free agent deal in the off-season, making 92 starts at second base.
- ◆ Compiled a fielding percentage of .976 in 93 games at second base, which was the sixth best mark among second basemen at the time of his injury. Played in his 1,000th career game on May 15 versus

Baltimore and was on the 15-day disabled list from June 14 to July 2 with a strained left groin. After his activation, he hit .323 with seven doubles, nine homers, and 29 RBI in 35 games prior to being shut down for the season on August 19.

- ◆ Was hit by a line drive in the left thumb on August 15 in St. Petersburg, FL during BP and did not play the rest of the season. During the doctor visit for his thumb on August 19, he complained of neck soreness which had been bothering him since early April. Exam and MRI revealed herniated discs in his neck, and he was subsequently placed on the disabled list through the remainder of the season. Had successful surgery on October 7 in Ft. Lauderdale, FL to fuse two vertebrae in his neck and relieve pressure on his spinal canal. Was in a neck brace for six weeks before beginning aggressive rehab on November 27.





Photo: Gregory Drezdson

# Travis Hafner

# 32

## Contract Status:

Signed through 2003.

## Acquired:

December 6, 2002 from the Texas Rangers along with RHP Aaron Myette in exchange for RHP Ryan Drese and CA Einar Diaz.

## 2002 Season Highlights

◆ Spent most of the year at AAA Oklahoma and began the season on the active roster after recovering quicker than expected from off-season surgery on his right wrist. Hit .272 in April with three home runs and 11 RBI before exploding from April 30 through the rest of his tenure in AAA – hitting .363 with 19 HR and 71 RBI over the season's final 89 games. Hit .365 in June with 4 HR and 21 RBI in 25 games and .375 in July with 7 HR and 19 RBI in 24 games. Overall he finished third in the Pacific Coast League in batting average, first in on-base percentage (.463), and fourth in slugging percentage.

◆ Appeared in 65 games at first base and 45 as the designated hitter at Triple A. Hit .351 off lefties with 5 HR and 13 RBI and .339 off right-handers with 16 HR and 64 RBI. Hit .325 with 5 HR and 51 RBI with runners in scoring position. After the season, he was named to the *Sportsticker* PCL All-Prospect Team.

◆ Was recalled by Texas to the big leagues for the first time on August 6 and made his debut that night at Detroit, striking out in his first at-bat. Hit safely in his next five games after his debut and collected his first Major League hit and RBI with an RBI triple at Detroit on August 7 off Mark Redman.

◆ Finished out the year with the Rangers, making 13 starts at DH and three starts at first base for the Rangers over his two stints.





Photo: Gregory Drezdson

# Matt Lawton

11

## Contract Status:

Signed through 2005.

## Acquired:

December 11, 2001 from the New York Mets along with LHP Billy Traber, OF Alex Escobar, RHP Jerrod Riggan, and 1B Earl Snyder in exchange for 2B Roberto Alomar, LHP Mike Bacsik, and 1B Danny Peoples.

## 2002 Season Highlights

- ♦ Got off to a hot start, hitting .279 over the season's first 16 games (17-61) with five home runs and 14 RBI while leading the American League in runs scored with 19. Had at least one RBI in a career-high eight straight games (10 RBI) from April 3 to 11, falling one game short of the club record for RBI in consecutive games.
- ♦ Season took a turn for the worse when he suffered a slight separation to his right shoulder diving for a ball in Minneapolis on April 19, an

injury that lingered all season and ended it on September 2. Was his second career stint on the big league disabled list. Spent most of the year starting in right field before spending his last month of the season in left field. Did not make an error in 47 chances in left field.

- ♦ Hit a two-run, game-ending homer on May 14 versus Baltimore off Jorge Julio. Led off three games with homers (Has four career lead-off HR). Hit leadoff in 66 games, batting .241 with 12 2B, 9 HR, and 35 RBI. Reached safely in 90 of 114 games. Was shut down for the season with continued soreness after the game on September 2 after hitting .169 with 3 HR and 14 RBI over his last 25 games from August 4 through September 2 that lowered his average from .254 to .236.
- ♦ Was officially placed on the 15-day disabled list on September 13. He underwent arthroscopic surgery on his right throwing shoulder in Cincinnati, OH on September 17.





Photo: Gregory Drezdson

# John McDonald

8

## Contract Status:

Signed through 2003.

## Acquired:

Selected by the Indians in the 12th round of the 1996 June Draft.

## 2002 Season Highlights

- ◆ Enjoyed his first full season in the big leagues as the Tribe's utility infielder and spent much of the season's last two months as the Tribe's regular second baseman. Appeared in 64 games at second base, 21 games at shortstop, and 10 games at third base.
- ◆ Compiled a fielding percentage of .979. Collected his first career triple and RBI in his 80th career at-bat on June 5 at Minnesota. Enjoyed two 2-RBI games on the year, the last of which came on June 16 at

Colorado. Had a career-high three hits on four different occasions, the last of which came on September 5 at Chicago-AL. Hit his first Major League homer on September 5 at Chicago-AL off Jim Parque (last RBI of the season).

- ◆ Hit .226 as a regular player from August 15 through the end of the year and was 4 for his last 34 over his last 11 games. Best month was July, hitting .306 with two RBI in 16 games. Hit .261 and .264, respectively, in the eighth and ninth spots in the order.



# Terry Mulholland

# 45



## Contract Status:

Signed through 2003.

## Acquired:

January 8, 2003. Signed by Cleveland to a free agent Major League contract. Originally acquired July 28, 2002 from Los Angeles along with RHP Francisco Cruzeta and RHP Ricardo Rodriguez in exchange for RHP Paul Shuey.

## 2002 Season Highlights

- ◆ Is 17th among active pitchers in career innings pitched, 34th in appearances (547), and 36th in strikeouts (1,204).
- ◆ Began the 2002 season (his 17th in the Majors) on the LA Dodgers roster. Was placed on the 15-day disabled list from May 3 to June 4 due to a lower back strain, marking his sixth career appearance on the DL at the Major League level.
- ◆ Appeared in "mop-up" duty during his remaining six weeks with the Dodgers, but did post an ERA of 1.35 over his last four outings with LA before being acquired by the Indians. Best month of the season was July, going 1-0 with a 4.85 ERA in eight games with Cleveland and LA.
- ◆ Immediately became a solid contributor in the Indians bullpen after the trade, earning his first win since August 5, 2001 in his Indians debut on July 29 at Oakland. Recorded his second win on August 24 versus Seattle; and over his first 10 relief appearances with the Tribe, he was 2-0 with a 3.93 ERA. Equaled his career-high in relief innings pitched with a 5.1 inning performance in his outing of August 30 versus Boston, that vaulted him into the rotation.
- ◆ He made his first start since October 2, 2001 on September 3 at Detroit. He allowed four runs on 11 hits in 7.0 IP. Made second start in Chicago-AL on September 8 and picked up his only win as a starter on September 13 versus Minnesota.
- ◆ No baserunners attempted a stolen base off him in 2002. He has allowed just two steals since the 2000 season.

Photo: Gregory Drezdson





## Contract Status:

Signed through 2003

## Acquired:

December 6, 2002 from the Texas Rangers along with INF Travis Hafner in exchange for RHP Ryan Drese and CA Einar Diaz.

## 2002 Season Highlights

- ◆ Began the season in the rotation at AAA Oklahoma and struck out nine batters over each of three consecutive starts. Fanned 106 batters in 106.0 IP at Triple A. Over his last 11 starts with Oklahoma, he went 6-2 with a 2.55 ERA and overall limited Minor League batters to a .222 average. Right-handed hitters hit just .195 off him with runners in scoring position. Tossed a 9.0 inning, complete game, two-hit shutout on May 2 versus Nashville (2 BB, 6 SO).
- ◆ Was recalled from Oklahoma on June 8. Allowed two runs over 2.0 IP in his 2002 debut on June 9 versus Atlanta and was optioned back to the Redhaws the next day. Was recalled again on June 24 and made his first start of the year on June 26 versus Anaheim and was optioned back on June 28. Was recalled for the remainder of the season on July 19 and entered the Ranger rotation.
- ◆ Was ejected after throwing two pitches behind Melvin Mora on September 3 at Baltimore. Started against the Orioles the following night, the first Major Leaguer to start on consecutive days since Oakland's Dave McCatty on April 14-15, 1980 and the first-ever Ranger. Longest outing of the year was 6.0 IP on August 24 at New York.

**GO TRIBE!**

Photo: Gregory Drezdson





Photo: Gregory Drezdson

## Contract Status:

Signed through 2003.

## Acquired:

November 19, 2001. Claimed off Special Waivers by the Indians.

## 2002 Season Highlights

- ◆ Split the season between Buffalo, Cleveland, and the disabled list. At the time of his injury, he was a consistent member of the Tribe bullpen. Made six scoreless appearances with the Bisons and was recalled to Cleveland on April 24.
- ◆ Made his Indians debut on April 24 versus Chicago-AL. Was with the Tribe over the next two and a half months, making 26 appearances before being optioned to AAA Buffalo on July 15 due to a shortage of arms in the bullpen. Made two appearances with the Bisons and was recalled for the second and final time on July 23.
- ◆ Made three appearances before being placed on the 15-day disabled list on July 29 with tendonitis in his right elbow. At the time of the disablement, he had allowed only one run in his previous 11 outings at the big-league level to lower his ERA from 5.87 to 4.04, including six straight scoreless appearances to end his season from July 6 to 28. Equaled his career-high with a 2002-best 3.0 IP, May 21 at Detroit. Also set a new career-best in strikeouts with three on May 19 versus Kansas City.
- ◆ Appeared in one game with AA Akron on a rehab assignment, August 12, and was shut down after the appearance with continued soreness in his elbow and forearm.
- ◆ Has one Major League win and lost two decisions with the Tribe in 2002.







Photo: Gregory Drezdson

# Brandon Phillips 7

## Contract Status:

Signed through 2003.

## Acquired:

June 27, 2002 from Montreal along with LHP Cliff Lee, OF Grady Sizemore, and 1B Lee Stevens in exchange for RHP Bartolo Colon, RHP Tim Drew, and cash.

## 2002 Season Highlights

- ♦ Split the season between Double A, Triple A, and got his first taste of the big leagues in September. Prior to the 2002 season, Phillips was rated by *Baseball America* as Montreal's #1 prospect and the 20th best prospect in all of baseball.
- ♦ Began the season on fire at AA Harrisburg in the Expos system, hitting .327 with 40 RS, 9 HR, 35 RBI, and 6 SB in 60 games before being promoted to AAA Ottawa on June 14. Hit in 21 straight games for

Harrisburg from April 6 to May 3 and was named Eastern League Player of the Month for April, hitting .397 with 6 HR and 17 RBI. Had two 2-homer games on April 13 versus Altoona and on May 27 versus Binghamton.

- ♦ Spent the remainder of the Minor League season in Buffalo, hitting .283 with 14 2B, 8 HR, and 27 RBI in 55 games.
- ♦ Contract was purchased on September 13 from AAA Buffalo after the International League playoffs and made his Major League debut that night against the Twins as a defensive replacement at second base. Notched his first Major League hit in Boston's Fenway Park off Frank Castillo on September 16.
- ♦ Enjoyed his finest game to date as a big leaguer on September 26 at Minnesota, going a career-best 3 for 4 with two doubles, a triple, and a career-high four RBI while scoring a run. After the season he was named the top prospect in the Indians organization by *Baseball America*.





## Contract Status:

Signed through 2003.

## Acquired:

Selected by Cleveland in the 56th round of the June, 1996 Draft.

## 2002 Season Highlights

- ◆ Split the season between AAA Buffalo, Cleveland, and the disabled list. Got off to a solid start in April after a tremendous spring. Went 0-1 with a 3.86 ERA in 12 April games and did not allow an earned run over his first eight games. Made his 2002 debut and got the loss on April 2 in Anaheim.
- ◆ Struggled in May and June, going a combined 1-1 with a 7.31 ERA in 21 appearances before going on the 15-day disabled list on June 19 with a lower back/right hamstring strain. Did earn his only save of the season on June 5 at Minnesota and first win of the season on May 30 versus Detroit.
- ◆ Was on the DL from June 19 to July 16 and did a four-appearance rehab stint in Akron from July 4 to 14. Was activated on July 17, making two appearances before being optioned to AAA Buffalo on July 20. Was recalled on August 15 for the remainder of the season.
- ◆ Best month was September, going 1-0 with a 3.29 ERA in 10 outings and allowed two earned runs over last eight outings. Struck out a career-high six batters on September 11 versus Toronto.



Photo: Gregory Drezdson



# Ricardo Rodriguez 56

## Contract Status:

Signed through 2003.

## Acquired:

July 28, 2002 from Los Angeles along with RHP Francisco Cruzeta and LHP Terry Mulholland in exchange for RHP Paul Shuey.

## 2002 Season Highlights

- ◆ Began the year on the Minor League disabled list with biceps tendonitis in his right shoulder and did not make his first start of the season at AA Jacksonville until May 18. Entered the 2002 season ranked as the Dodgers No. 1 prospect by *Baseball America*. Made 11 starts at Jacksonville, going 5-4 with a 1.99 ERA.
- ◆ Made his Buffalo debut on July 31 and won three of his four starts with the Bisons before being recalled to Cleveland on August 20.
- ◆ Made his Major League debut on August 21 versus Oakland, getting the loss in the 6-0 Oakland win. Notched his first Major League victory in his start versus Detroit on August 26, working a career-high 8.1 innings.
- ◆ Notched his second career win in his start at Chicago-AL on September 5 and worked 7.0 innings in his start versus Toronto on September 10. Worked 5.0 or more innings in six of his seven Major League starts and pitched into the sixth inning in five of them.



Photo: Gregory Drezdson



## Contract Status:

Signed through 2005 with a club option for 2006.

## Acquired:

Selected by Cleveland in the first round (20th overall) of the 1998 Amateur Draft.

## 2002 Season Highlights

- ◆ C.C. turned in an over-powering performance over his last 11 starts that turned his season into a successful second season in the big leagues. Over his last 11 starts, he went 7-2 with a 2.54 ERA to lower his ERA from 5.45 to its season-ending total of 4.37. Worked seven or more innings in nine of the 11 starts. The 4.37 ERA was lower than his rookie season as he made the same amount of starts with 29.2 more innings in 2002 than 2001 (180.1 IP).
- ◆ His ERA of 2.54 from August 6 through the end of the season was the fifth lowest mark in the American League as he became just the fifth pitcher since 1987 to win 30 games over his first two seasons in the big leagues. Is now 17-6 in his career in the second half as he led the team in wins for the second straight year. Also led the team in innings pitched, starts, and strikeouts.
- ◆ Finished 10th in the American League with 149 strikeouts and his 2.48 day ERA was tied for fourth in the AL. His .73 HR allowed per 9.0 IP was the seventh lowest mark in the AL, and he was ninth in the AL with 3,379 pitches thrown. His 24 double play grounders induced was tied for sixth in the AL. Also finished tied for first in the league in balks (three), second in walks (88), tied for ninth in runs allowed, and seventh in earned runs (102) allowed.
- ◆ Won a season-high three straight decisions from August 28 to September 7, recording an ERA of 1.85 over the span. Tossed his first career ML complete game in an eight-inning loss on August 18 at Anaheim. Has reached the 10-win mark in each of his first two Major League seasons.

## GO TRIBE!

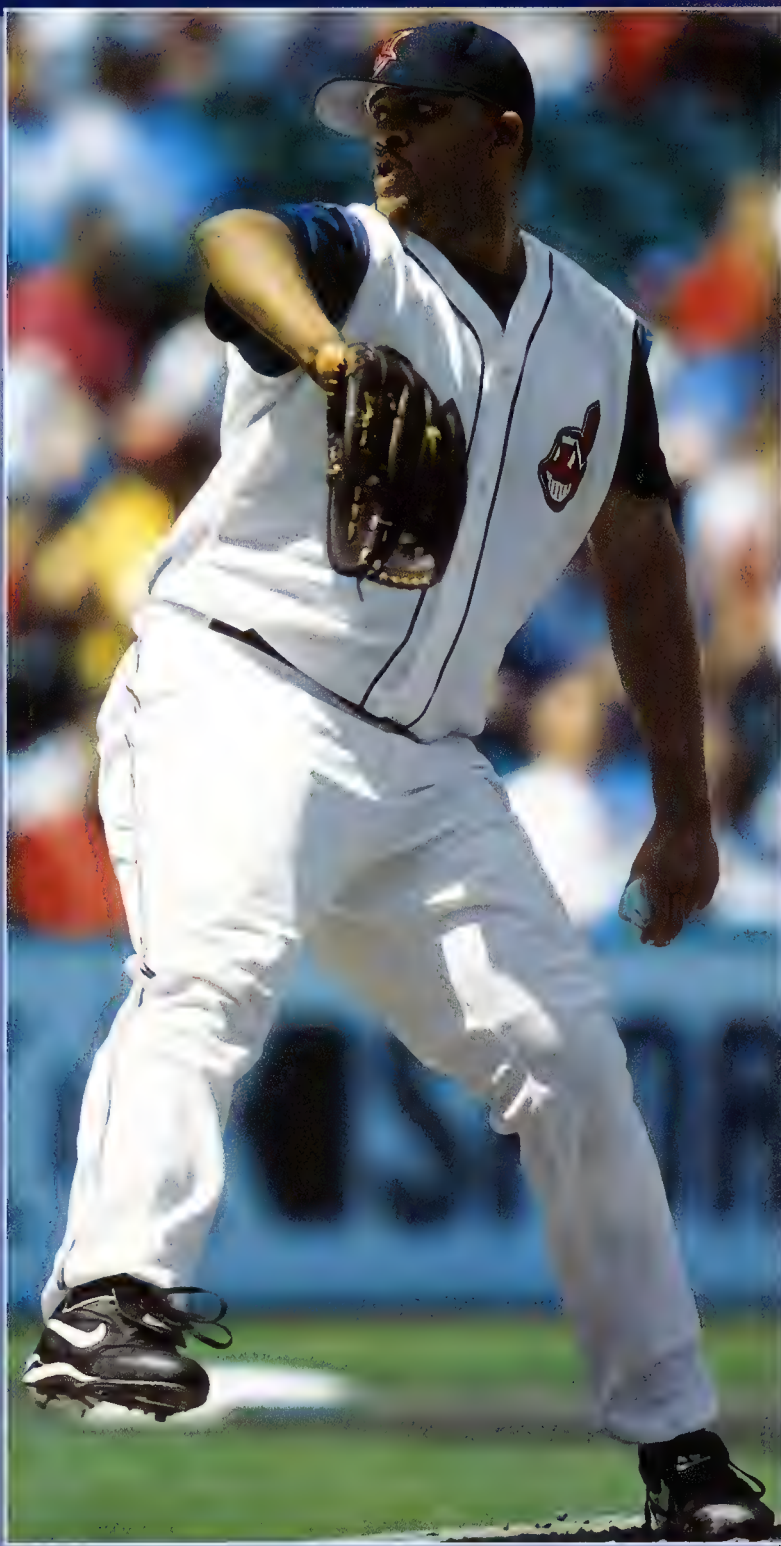


Photo: Gregory Drezdson





Photo: Gregory Drezdson

# Carl Sadler

53

## Contract Status:

Signed through 2003.

## Acquired:

April 3, 1998. Signed by Cleveland to a Minor League free agent contract.

## 2002 Season Highlights

- ◆ Split the first four months of the season between AA Akron and AAA Buffalo before spending August and September in the Major Leagues as a consistent member of the bullpen.
- ◆ Began the season at Akron, going 4-1-2 with a 2.33 ERA in 21 games. Limited Eastern League hitters to a .229 average before being sent to AAA Buffalo on June 20.

- ◆ Went 1-1-1 with a 1.93 ERA in 12 games with the Bisons. Allowed earned runs in only four of his 12 outings at Buffalo, limiting left-handed hitters to a .208 average. Lefties hit .140 off him combined at Buffalo and Akron.

- ◆ Made his Major League debut after seventh season of pro ball on July 31 at Oakland. Notched his first Major League win on August 17 at Anaheim in the Tribe's 9-4 win.

*Player profiles continue on page 71.*



# Shane Spencer

# 47



Photo: Gregory Drezdson

## Contract Status:

Signed through 2003.

## Acquired:

January 14, 2003. Signed by Cleveland to a Major League free agent contract.

## 2002 Season Highlights

- ◆ Spent his 13th season in the New York Yankees organization, his fifth at the big league level. Has appeared at first base 25 times in his professional career and just once at the big league level. Hit .247 with 15 doubles, 6 HR, and 34 RBI in a career-high 94 games. Made 42 starts in right field, 34 starts in left field, and one at DH for the AL East champs, hitting .267 off LHP.
- ◆ Went three for four with a double on April 1 at Baltimore. Was three for four with one homer and a season-high four RBI on June 10 versus Arizona – including his fourth career grand slam in the eighth inning off Bret Prinz that erased a 4-3 Diamondbacks lead and propelled the Yankees to a 7-5 win. Had six 3-hit games on the year as his season-high hitting streak was five games.

Player profiles continued on page 74.





# Billy Traber

# 40

## Contract Status:

Signed through 2003.

## Acquired:

December 11, 2001 from the New York Mets along with OF Matt Lawton, OF Alex Escobar, RHP Jerrod Riggan, and 1B Earl Snyder in exchange for 2B Roberto Alomar, LHP Mike Bacsik, and 1B Danny Peoples.

## 2002 Season Highlights

- ◆ Spent most of his first season in the Indians organization at AA Akron, where he went 13-2 with a 2.76 ERA in 18 games/17 starts. Was named runner-up Pitcher of the Year in the Eastern League and was awarded a spot on the EL Post-Season All-Star Team. Led the EL with two shutouts, and his 13 wins tied him for third in the league.
- ◆ Was named to the AA All-Star Team at mid-season and pitched for the U.S. in the Future's Game on July 7 in Milwaukee. Tossed a pair of 7.0 inning, complete game, one-hit shutouts on May 21 at Portland and June 6 versus Binghamton. Won his last eight decisions at Akron from May 15 to July 2; and over his last 13 Akron games, he was 9-1 with a 2.09 ERA. Was promoted to AAA Buffalo on July 11 and spent the remainder of the season with the Bisons.
- ◆ Went 8.0 shutout innings in his Buffalo debut on July 13 versus Syracuse and worked at least 5.0 innings in all nine of his Buffalo starts. Won his last three decisions for the Bisons, going 3-0 with a 2.73 ERA over his last five starts from August 1 through the end of the season.
- ◆ Combined on the year, he went 17-5 with a 2.94 ERA in 27 games at Akron and Buffalo. After the season, he was voted as having the best control and curveball in the Eastern League by *Baseball America*.



Photo: Gregory Drezdron



# Omar Vizquel

# 13



Photo: Gregory Drezdson

## Contract Status:

Signed through 2004 with a mutual option for 2005.

## Acquired:

December 20, 1993 from Seattle in exchange for Felix Fermin and Reggie Jefferson.

## 2002 Season Highlights

- ◆ Omar established new career-highs in homers (14) and RBI (72), raising his batting average 20 points from 2001 to 2002 (.255 to .275)—hitting .317 over his first 64 games with 9 HR and 41 RBI through June 12. He enjoyed his second career two-homer game on June 8 versus the Mets.
- ◆ His 14 HR are the most by a Tribe SS since Woodie Held hit 19 in 1962. Vizquel collected his second career five-hit game on May 5 versus Texas.
- ◆ Hit in a career-best 18 straight games from July 14 to August 1, hitting .392 over the span with three homers and eight RBI. Omar's team-high 10 SF was tied for fourth in the American League.
- ◆ The nine-time Rawlings Gold Glove winner compiled a fielding percentage of .9902, second best among AL shortstops. Appeared in 150 games at shortstop, making 148 starts. Had a 57-game errorless streak from August 30, 2001 to May 7, 2002 and a 34-game errorless streak from August 13 to September 18. Owns a career-fielding percentage of .98350—best in MLB history among shortstops with 1000 games or more.
- ◆ With his 18 steals in 2002, he is now third in club history in stolen bases with 252. Omar is now 10th in club history in career hits (1,390) and runs scored (781). His 4,891 at-bats are now ninth all-time by an Indian. His 247 doubles are ninth as well. Reached base in 126 of 148 GS. Scored his 1,000th career run on September 22 at Kansas City.

## GO TRIBE!



# Jake Westbrook

# 37



Photo: Gregory Drezdson

## Contract Status:

Signed through 2003.

## Acquired:

July 25, 2000 from the Yankees along with RHP Zach Day to complete trade of June 29, 2000 that sent OF David Justice to New York in exchange for OF Ricky Ledee.

## 2002 Season Highlights

- ◆ Began the year on the 15-day disabled list after having surgery on his right elbow.
- ◆ Began a 30-day rehab assignment at AA Akron and AAA Buffalo on June 16, making three starts at Akron and two starts at Buffalo. Overall in the four official starts between AA Akron and AAA Buffalo, he was 1-1 with a 5.14 ERA prior to his activation on July 11.
- ◆ Made seven relief appearances from July 13 to August 4. He retired six of the first seven batters faced in relief. Earned only win of the year in his last relief outing at Seattle on August 4.
- ◆ Made his first start of the season on August 9 versus Texas at Jacobs Field and did not get a decision in the 3-2 Rangers win. Allowed one run over his last 5.0 IP after yielding a run on three hits in the first inning. Made second start on August 15 at Tampa Bay, working a career-high 8.0 IP in the 4-3 loss in his best outing of the season.
- ◆ Was shut down for the season after start of August 25 after continued soreness in his elbow.

Player profiles continued on page 84.





# Bob Wickman

# 26

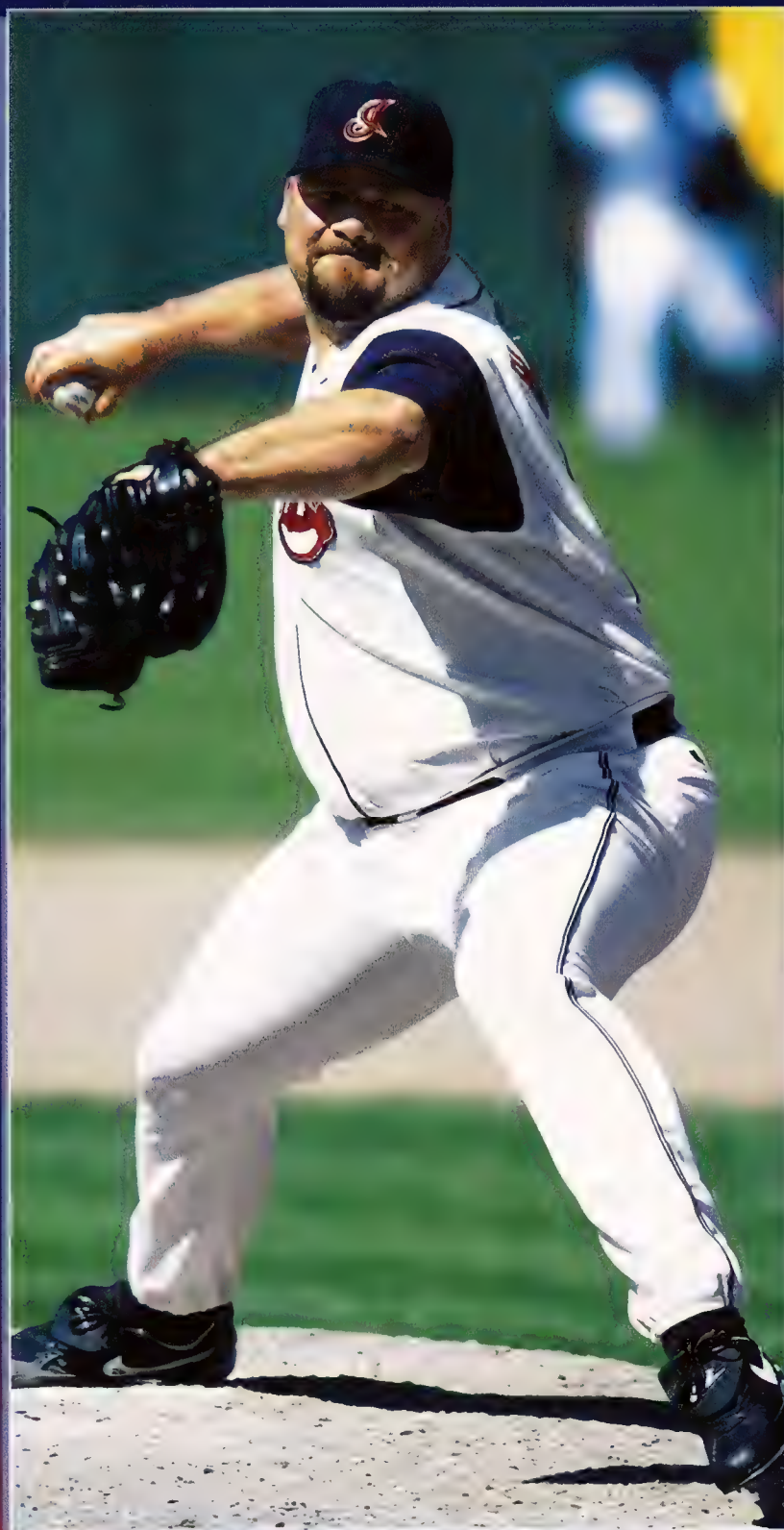


Photo: Gregory Drezdson

## Contract Status:

Signed through 2004 with a club option for 2005.

## Acquired:

July 28, 2000 from Milwaukee along with RHPs Steve Woodard and Jason Bere in exchange for 1B Richie Sexson, RHPs Kane Davis and Paul Rigdon, and INF Marco Scutaro.

## 2002 Season Highlights

- ◆ Season was marred by right elbow problems that ended his season in early August. He underwent ligament reconstruction in his right elbow in the off-season that will nullify his 2003 season. Elbow bothered him most of the season, but he battled his way to 36 appearances and 20 saves in 22 chances.
- ◆ Saved his first nine chances of the season from April 3 to May 18 to set a new career high for consecutive saves (21) without a blown save – dating back to August 14, 2001. Since July 23, 2001, he has saved 37 of his last 40. May was his best month, going 0-2 with a 2.53 ERA in 11 outings.
- ◆ Was on the DL from July 22 to August 9 and from August 11 through the remainder of the season. Tossed one scoreless inning after his activation on August 10 versus Texas and did not pitch again the rest of the season.
- ◆ At the time of his injury, he was 10th in the American League with 20 saves.

**Cleveland**<sup>™</sup>



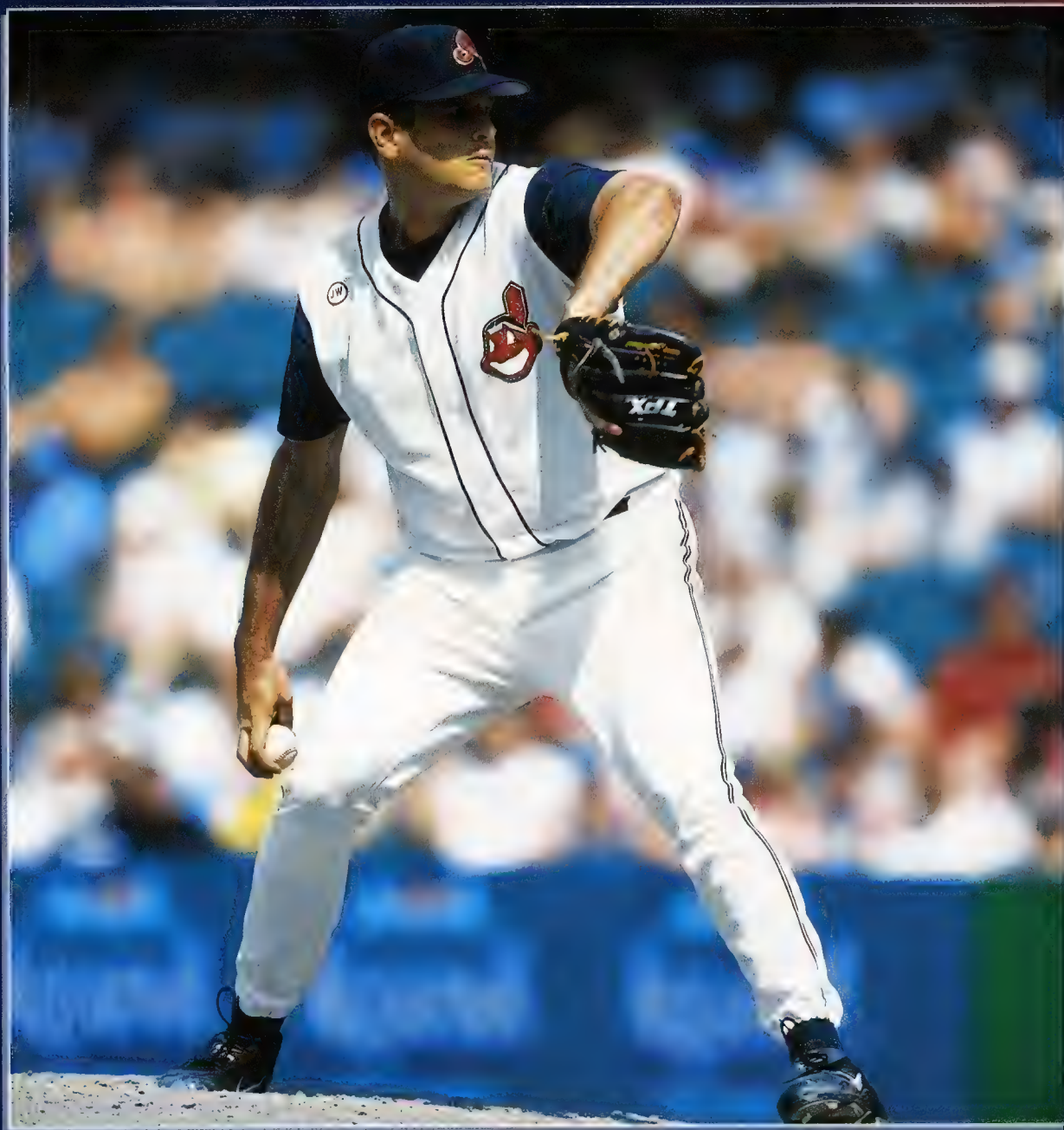


Photo: Gregory Drezdson

# Mark Wohlers

# 39

## Contract Status:

Signed through 2003 with a club option for 2004.

## Acquired:

January 9, 2002. Signed by Cleveland to a Major League free agent contract.

## 2002 Season Highlights

- ◆ Shook off a rough start to become the Tribe's most reliable reliever in the second half, recording a record of 3-3 with seven saves and a 2.54 ERA in 35 second-half games while leading the club with 64 appear-

ances. Was the Tribe's closer from July 22 to August 27 and on the year saved seven of 11 chances.

- ◆ Recorded saves in four straight situations as closer from July 29 to August 6. Did not allow a run over 14 straight appearances from July 11 to August 6, the most consecutive scoreless innings (17) by an Indians reliever. That lowered his ERA from 7.52 to 4.93.
- ◆ Recorded his first win of the season on July 12 versus New York.
- ◆ Was outstanding in September after recording an ERA of 6.23 in August. Went 1-1 with a 1.50 ERA in 11 games over the final month of the season.





Photo: Gregory Drezdzon



# How To Get Involved with CIC...

*Indians fans help to generate money for CIC by participating in the various fund-raising activities hosted by CIC each season. In 2003, CIC will generate funds through the following programs and events:*

## First Pitch Luncheon

*Wednesday, April 9*

Tribe fans are invited to welcome the Tribe back to Cleveland at the first CIC event of 2003. Held at the Convocation Center at Cleveland State University, this is an opportunity for fans to meet the entire roster of players and coaches. They will hear from new Indians Manager Eric Wedge on his outlook for the upcoming season, and also from several players. The event includes a special 45-minute post-luncheon autograph session and a commemorative gift for all fans in attendance.



## Garage Sale

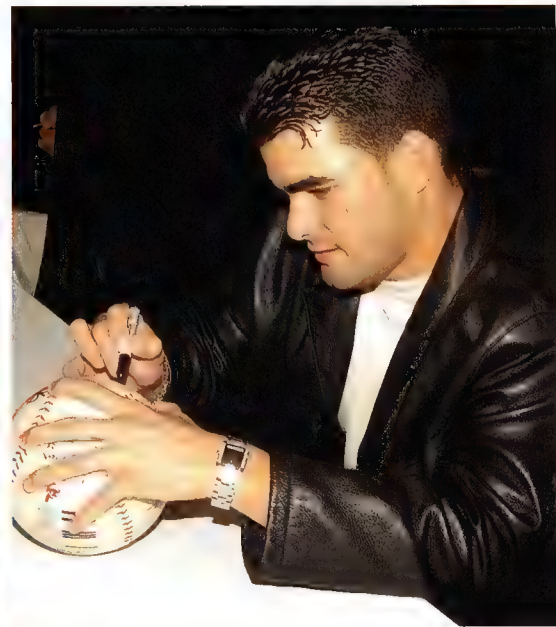
*Saturday, August 23*

This is a baseball collector's dream sale! It's like a trip down memory lane at the Second Annual Cleveland Indians Charities Garage Sale. For sale will be items like game-worn jerseys, used player bats, signed baseballs and photos, street-pole banners, and

*At the 2002 First Pitch Luncheon: (top) Omar Vizquel addressed the guests. (Below, left to right): reliever David Riske and closer Danys Baez (and all the Indians) signed autographs.*



All photos: Gregory Drezdson







GROUP TICKETS

# Bring Your Group to a Tribe Game . . .

The Cleveland Indians want you and your group to be a part of the excitement being created at Jacobs Field for the 2003 season. The thrills you experience as you sit on the edge of your seat for each home run, double play, or play at the plate will be something to remember.

Taking in a Tribe game at Jacobs Field with your family, friends, co-workers, teammates, classmates, or your church group is always a great way to spend an afternoon or evening.

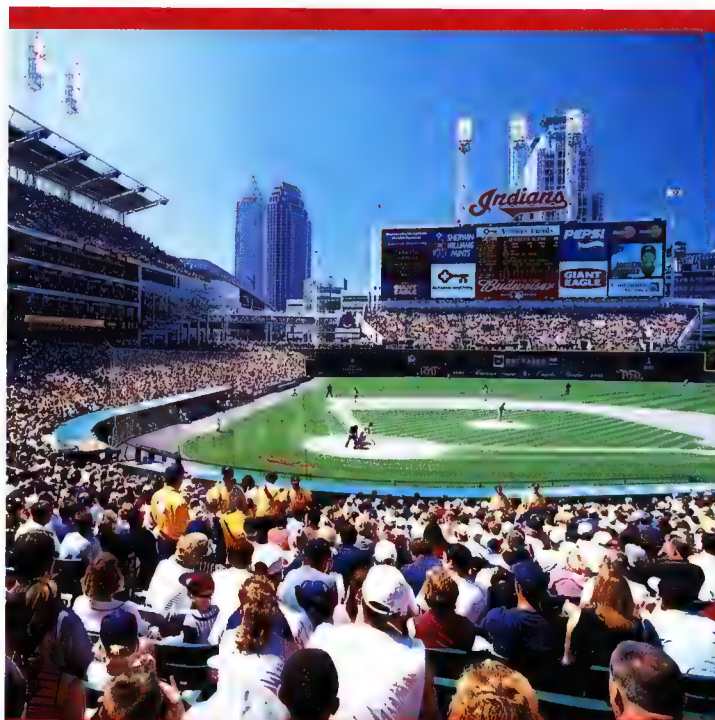
We'd like to make your group program as easy as possible to plan, and we have a variety of programs that will fit your needs. We'll make sure you get the seats you want to enjoy the game.

Call us today and your personal Account Executive will go over all your options for games, seats, and ways to make your group program work for you. Call 216.420.HITS or visit [indians.com](http://indians.com)!



## Your Group's Incentive Awards for Their Participation:

- Significant discounts off ticket prices
- Two complimentary tickets for every group of 50 or more
- Public Address Welcome (groups of 150 or more)
- Scoreboard Greeting
- Personalized Account Executive service
- Promotional assistance with e-mails, flyers, sign-up forms, and posters
- Best available seating at the time of your order



**Enjoy a day at the park.  
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## The Ford Picnic Pavilion

At the Ford Picnic Pavilion, all you need to do is arrive at the ballpark, and we'll supply your group with a full picnic. Food, beverages, and all the trimmings will be in place. All you'll need is a ticket to the game. Call an Account Executive today to learn more about this opportunity.

**Ask about ordering group  
tickets via the Internet.**

All photos: Gregory Drezdson

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GAME FACE 61

**2003**





• GARAGE SALE •



All photos: Gregory Drezdron

more. Plus there will be a sealed-bid auction for memorabilia you won't find anywhere else. The event will be held in the concourse of Jacobs Field. Last year's Garage Sale generated nearly \$100,000 for CIC.

## Celebrity Golf Classic

Monday, August 25

Presented by



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This year's event will be held in partnership with the *Major League Baseball Players Alumni Association*. Participants spend the day golfing with Indians players, coaches, alumni, and broadcasters at Quail Hollow. The event includes great gifts, prizes, breakfast, lunch, cocktail dinner party, live auction, and more. Individual registration or teams of five golfers are available.

## Jacobs Field Tours

April through September

Experience the excitement of Cleveland's crown jewel with a behind-the-scenes tour of one of baseball's greatest ballparks. Tours are available May through September, Monday through Friday. Saturday tours are available when the team is on the road. Tours accommodate up to 40 people, last approximately one hour, are wheelchair accessible, and depart from the Jacobs Field Team Shop. Still and video cameras are welcome.



Photo: Gregory Drezdron

Jacobs Field tours include a visit to the Press Box, Bullpen, Club Lounge, Dugout, Batting Cages, and Party Suite. The Visitors Clubhouse is included in tours of Jacobs Field on select dates. (The tour route is subject to change.)

Tickets are \$6.50 for adults and \$4.50 for youths 14 and under and senior citizens 60 and over. A group rate is available at 1PM each day. Tour tickets are available at any Indians Team Shop, at the Jacobs Field Main Box Office, at any Northern Ohio OfficeMax, or at indians.com. (The group rate is only available at the Jacobs Field Main Box Office.)

With support from **OfficeMax**, a special school tour program is also available in April, May, early June, and all of September.

(Above) Fans found many "keepers" at Cleveland Indians Charities' first Garage Sale. (Left) Former Indian and current broadcaster Rick Manning at the Celebrity Golf Classic.



# Executive Suites

## Perfect for **Business** or **Pleasure**



Are you tired of spending hours on the phone or e-mailing clients or business associates? Reserve an Executive Suite today for the game of your choice and enjoy Indians baseball from the comfort of *Your Personal Suite*. Show your clients that your organization is first-class by inviting them to a Jacobs Field Suite this season.

Suites can accommodate from eight to 40 guests and provide the very best in services to make your game experience one to remember.

### Excellent amenities include:

- Up to three complimentary VIP parking passes for the Gateway East Garage
- Gameday membership to the Club Lounge
- Private Suite with separate concourse
- Private rest rooms, refrigerator, ice maker, bar, and service station – additional items may be purchased in advance or ordered from the gameday menu
- Television and audio options that are controlled by Suite holder



Photos: Gregory Drezdson





Teachers will receive *Team Teacher* – a specially created, baseball-themed book of curriculum – when they book their class for a tour. Teachers interested in bringing their class to Jacobs Field for a field trip the students will never forget should call ahead to book their date and time.

For more information on Jacobs Field tours, please call 216.420.4385.

## Pepsi Corporate Hitting Challenge

*June through September*



Batter up for the *Eighth Annual Pepsi Corporate Hitting Challenge*! This unique event offers teams of nine batters and three alternates the chance to step up to the plate at Jacobs Field in a hitting tournament. Registration includes practice time in the batting cages, your name on the scoreboard, commemorative gift, prizes each round, and more. The 2002 tournament winner was *FirstEnergy*, with *Giant Eagle* coming in second place.

## In-park Silent Auction

*Runs throughout the entire season*

Bidder up! Here's your chance to own a piece of the Tribe. New for 2003 will be silent auctions held at Jacobs Field during select home games. About 10 unique pieces of memorabilia will be up for auction each date, including signed items. Items will vary each date. Check out the auction table in the concourse on these dates:

<i>Sunday, April 13</i>	<i>Friday, May 16</i>
<i>Saturday, May 31</i>	<i>Friday, June 13</i>
<i>Saturday, June 28</i>	<i>Thursday, July 10</i>
<i>Sunday, July 13</i>	<i>Sunday, August 17.</i>



Both photos: Gregory Drezdron

Participants in the Pepsi Corporate Hitting Challenge experience the excitement of a "big league" at-bat at Jacobs Field (top and bottom). Teammates offer each other encouragement before the competition (middle).

In-park silent auction dates are subject to change. Fans must be in attendance at the designated game to bid on items.

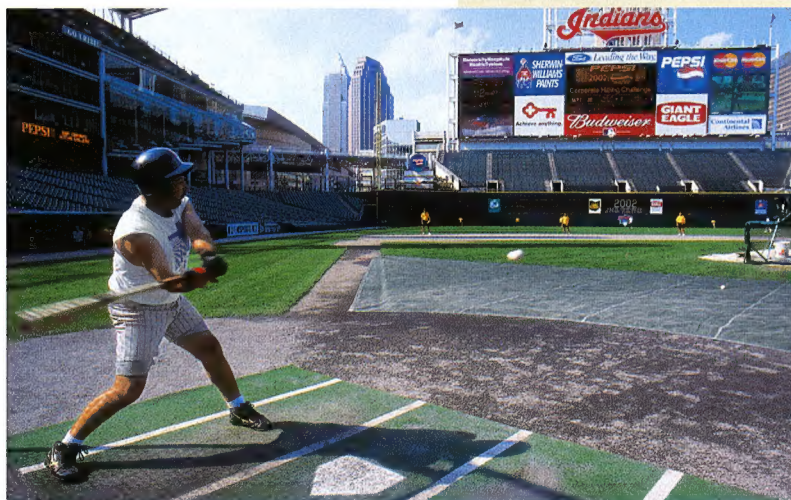


Photo: Gregory Drezdron

If you would like information on any Cleveland Indians Charities program, please call 216.420.4400 or send an e-mail to [cic@cleindians.com](mailto:cic@cleindians.com).





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Photo: Gregory Drezdson



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So that we can more completely answer your inquiry, please include the following details:

- Type of event
- Date of event
- Appearance time
- Location of appearance

Photo: Gregory Drezdson